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*BEFORE
HIS FOOTSTOOL*

BY THE REV.
GEORGE EVERARD, M. A.



Before His Footstool.



BEFORE HIS FOOTSTOOL.

Family Prayers for One Month,

WITH

PRAYERS FOR SPECIAL OCCASIONS

AND INTRODUCTION.



BY THE

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Introduction.

IT has been truly said, that "A family without prayer is like a house without a roof." Family prayer is the thermometer of home piety : it tells what is the spiritual condition of the household. If it be neglected, or frequently omitted, or if it be a form quickly hurried over, as a mere necessary routine of the day, we may be sure religion is at a very low ebb in the home. Whilst, on the other hand, if it be regarded as a sweet and blessed privilege, if there be a heartiness and reality about it, then it is a plain testimony that the grace of God is there.

In many thousand homes throughout our land family prayer is regarded both

as a duty and as a privilege. But many Christian people earnestly desire that it should be far more profitable,—a far greater power for good than it has yet been.

Can any hints be given which might be likely to make it so ?

The great matter is to make it a reality. Like everything else in religion it is very apt to degenerate into a mere form. It becomes too often like the winding up of a clock or a watch,—something merely mechanical, without life or power or comfort. To counteract this, *there needs first of all a wellspring of true godliness in the one who leads the devotions of the rest.* True spiritual life in the one who conducts family worship is the all-essential requisite. A dead formal spirit is very infectious ; whereas

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earnest living faith and devoted love to the Saviour will be felt by the household in every chapter that is read, and in every prayer that is offered. "The mouth of the righteous is a well of life." "Out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaketh."

To make family prayer a reality, *it must be regarded as a matter of real importance in family arrangements.* It must not be omitted except for some very urgent cause. It must not be regarded as a small thing for one member to be too late to join the others in the morning. Children and servants must be led to feel that the heads of the household value it themselves, and wish to make it as helpful as possible to all under their roof. If the time be short for it on any particular morning, or if the engagements

of the day have necessarily led to its being very late at night, it is far better to repeat a text of Scripture, and then to have a short, earnest prayer, than to let the morning or evening pass by without it altogether.

Then it is needful *continually to watch against mere lip-worship*. "God is a Spirit, and they that worship Him must worship Him in spirit and in truth." The utterance of the lips without the desire and faith of the heart is not acceptable to God. We must never forget this. We must seek perpetually the aid of the Good Spirit, the Comforter. We must depend upon His quickening grace. We must look to Him to stir up within us a constant sense of the absolute necessity of prayer for our souls' health. We must expect from Him those heaven-

born aspirations, and that filial confidence through Christ's name, which make prayer to be indeed the prayer which is set forth as incense before our Father.

If we would make our family prayer a reality, we must study that *there may be life and variety in every part of it*. For this purpose it is well that the portion of Scripture read be not over long. It should never be above twenty to thirty verses, and it is often better to make it shorter even than this.* A few

* There is often great difficulty in the choice of portions of Scripture suitable to be read. As far as the New Testament is concerned, you could scarcely do better than take the second lesson given in the new Lectionary for the morning or the evening. Then for the Old Testament, it might be well to read through a portion of the Psalms, dividing them when over long. Also the daily first lessons form a very useful selection from any book of the Old Testament.

short words of practical comment upon the passage read is often most useful. If anything particular has occurred in the house, let notice be taken of it in the Scripture that is read, or in the prayer that is offered, or in both. If possible let a hymn be sung, at least occasionally. It often fixes the thoughts of those present, and draws them away from worldly matters.

It is important also to have variety in the prayers offered. If a manual of prayers be used, it is well now and then to lay it aside and use a few collects, or a portion of our Litany; or still better, to utter in your own words your desires on behalf of your family. The words may be very simple and few, but they may reach the ear of God, and touch the hearts of those who join with

you, if only they come from your own heart, and are inspired by an earnest longing for a Father's blessing.

To assist in this point of variety in the prayers offered, I feel that another manual of family prayers may not be out of place. It need not be that any other volume which has been previously used and valued should be thrown aside, but a fresh one may be useful in supplementing the former. It may much increase the devotion of the household to have their wants expressed in somewhat different words to those to which they may have been long accustomed. My desire in preparing the present volume has been to bring before God the real wants of a household in plain and simple words, and which will be within the understanding of all its members. Oh!

that each family where it is used may indeed fall low before the footstool of Jehovah, and delight in seeking Him in sincerity and truth! And may we all at length form part of the Great Family which shall meet before the throne of His glory!

G. E.

Wolverhampton,
April, 1874.

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OUR FATHER which art in heaven,
Hallowed be Thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive them that trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: for Thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

THE Grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the Love of God, and the Fellowship of the Holy Ghost, be with us all. Amen.

THE Lord bless us and keep us. The Lord make His face to shine upon us, and be gracious unto us. The Lord lift up His countenance upon us, and give us peace in Christ Jesus, now and always. Amen.

THE Peace of God which passeth all understanding, keep our hearts and minds through Christ Jesus. Amen.

THE Blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost, be with us and remain with us always. Amen.

GRACE, mercy, and peace, from God the Father, and from Jesus Christ our Saviour, and from the Holy Ghost, the Comforter, be with us always. Amen.

!

Sunday Morning.

[FIRST WEEK.]

O LORD our God, our Father in Christ Jesus, we come before Thee this day in His name. We fall low on our knees before Thy footstool. We humbly adore and bless Thy holy name for this day of rest. It is the day which Thou hast made. O that we may rejoice and be glad in it! Fill our hearts with thankfulness and our lips with praise. Teach us to see Thy goodness in the provision which Thou hast made for our salvation. Thou hast given Thy holy Sabbaths as a sign of Thy favour towards us. Thou hast given Thy Word to guide and direct us. Thou hast sent Thy well-beloved

Son to be the Saviour of the world.
Thou hast sent the Holy Ghost, the
Comforter, to guide us into all truth.

We bless Thee, we praise Thee, we
glorify Thee, O Father, for all these
proofs of Thy love. We pray Thee give
us grace this day to live in the enjoyment
of them. Give us a true delight in the
services of Thy House. Take from us
the spirit of the world. Drive away all
vain and wandering thoughts. Keep us
from all lightness and irreverence, and
fix our hearts on Thyself.

O Lord God of hosts, Thou art in
heaven and we on earth. Teach us to
worship Thee with holy awe. When
we confess to Thee our sins give us
genuine sorrow and contrition. Whilst
we seek Thee in prayer let our peti-
tions be real and fervent. Let faith
be mingled with each desire we present
to Thee. Whilst we sing our songs of

praise let holy joy fill our hearts. Whilst we hear Thy Word read, or preached, let us receive it in meekness and obedience. O send Thy Spirit to us this day, and may we behold the glory of Christ.

O blessed Jesus, who art exalted to the right hand of the Father, bestow upon Thy Church the gifts which Thou hast purchased for us by Thy precious blood. Let Thy ministers be clothed with righteousness, and endued with power from on high. Give into them the spirit of wisdom, of love, and of a sound mind. Raise up many pastors after Thine own heart, who shall feed Thy flock in the wholesome pastures of Thy Word.

Be present, O Lord, in all the assemblies of Thy people to-day. Bow down Thine ear to hear, and open wide Thy hand to give. Awaken the careless, guide the erring, and comfort the sorrowful.

Let Thy Word have free course, and run, and be glorified. Be very nigh to those who are unable to go to Thy courts. Watch by the side of those in sickness and in suffering, and remind them of Thy love. Be Thou a staff of strength to the aged, and relieve the sorrows of those that are bereaved.

Accept these our humble supplications, and bless us for Thy mercy sake, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Our Father, etc.

Sunday Evening.

[FIRST WEEK.]

O HEAVENLY FATHER, our God and Father in Christ, we come into Thy presence and desire to thank Thee for Thy mercy to us. We thank Thee for the rest of this Thy holy day. We thank Thee for all the help which Thou hast given us on our way to the better land. We thank Thee that this night we may come to Thee again, and cast ourselves on Thy forgiving mercy.

We confess, O God, that we are unclean in Thy sight. Our services this day have been mingled with much imperfection. Our prayers have been defiled by worldly and wandering thoughts. We

have not loved Thee nor served Thee as we ought to have done. We have too often worshipped Thee with our lips, while our heart has been far from Thee. But, O Lord, we entreat Thee, cleanse us from the iniquities of our holy things. Take from us all our guilt, and clothe us with the fair raiment of the Redeemer's righteousness. Accept us in the Beloved, and deal with us favourably for His sake. Let "holiness to the Lord" be our aim in every service, and assist us by Thy Spirit in all our prayers and meditations.

O Lord Thou hast called us to labour in Thy vineyard. Thou hast given to each of us our talent, and wouldest have us employ it for Thee. Help us cheerfully to obey Thy call. Show us the work we have to do, and enable us to do it as in Thy sight. Through this coming week may we watch for opportunities of usefulness. May we never refuse the

least service we can render in the work of Thy Church. Make us ready to condescend to men of low estate, and to give a cup of cold water to the least of Thy disciples. Above all things, we pray that the love of Christ may constrain us. Send Thy Good Spirit to quicken our faith and love and zeal. Keep us from anything inconsistent with our profession, and may we adorn the doctrine of Christ in all things.

O Father, revive Thy work in the midst of us. Show us a token for good, and lift up a banner for Thy truth. Call forth many to work for Thee, and to bear witness for Christ in the world. Gather in a vast multitude of souls who are now strangers to Thy grace. Turn them from darkness into light and from the power of Satan unto Thee.

Keep us, O Lord, through the hours of this night, and guard us from all danger.

Awaken within us an earnest desire for Christ's appearing. Whether it be by day or by night, may we be found ready with our loins girded and our lights burning. O receive us now to Thy care, forgive us and bless us for Jesus Christ's sake. Amen.

Our Father, etc.

Monday Morning.

[FIRST WEEK.]

O LORD GOD ALMIGHTY, our Creator, our Preserver, our Father in Christ Jesus, look upon us this morning with Thy favour. Thy mercies are new every morning. Great is Thy faithfulness. It is of Thy mercies we are not consumed, because Thy compassions fail not. Thou hast mercifully watched over through the past night, and guarded us from all danger. We are now met in Thy presence, the living to praise and bless Thy name.

Grant unto us, O Lord, the spirit of true godliness. We would not be Christians in name only, but in deed and in

truth. O make us to be such by the mighty power of Thy Spirit. Show to us our need of pardon and grace and strength. Give us more contrition of heart, and more tenderness of conscience. Increase our faith, and enable us to rest all our hopes on Thy dear Son Jesus Christ. Thou hast given Him to be a sure Foundation, and a tried Corner-stone. Thou hast promised to bestow on us the gift of pardon and of Thy Spirit through Him. Thou hast assured us that whosoever believeth in Him shall not perish, but have eternal life. Lord, we believe : help Thou our unbelief. Fulfil to us these merciful promises. Freely blot out all our sins through His precious blood. Give us the Spirit of holiness, and renew us in Thine own image. Stir up within us an earnest desire to please Thee, and make us to hunger and thirst after righteousness. May we hate and abhor

that which is evil, and cleave to that which is good. May we follow after that which is honest and just and pure. Make us wholesome patterns of Christian living, so that men may find in us no cause of offence. Make us to live above the world whilst we are in it, and may we ever be looking for the glorious appearing of Thy Son Jesus Christ.

Remember, in Thy great mercy, our friends and relations far and near. Make them partakers with us in the blessed hopes of Thy Gospel. Comfort and support them in seasons of sorrow and anxiety, and bring them at last to Thy kingdom.

We pray Thee to bless the congregation to which we belong. Pour out the rich abundance of Thy grace upon Thy servant (or servants) ministering in Thy Word. Make him (or them) steadfast and immovable, always abounding in Thy work. Pour out upon all the members of

our congregation the spirit of prayer, the spirit of love, and the spirit of tender compassion for souls that are perishing.

Go forth with us, O Lord, this morning, to our various duties. Thou wert ever with Thy servant Joseph of old, and all that he did Thou didst make it to prosper. We pray Thee thus be near to us to help and bless us. Give us wisdom in all perplexities, and strength to resist every temptation. Keep us ever mindful of Thy presence, and bring us to the land of everlasting life, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Our Father, etc.

Monday Evening.

[FIRST WEEK.]

O LORD GOD ALMIGHTY, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, we come once more to seek Thy help. Another day has quickly passed by, and we are one stage nearer to our latter end. But Thou art the living God, unchangeable in truth and loving-kindness. With Thee is no variableness nor shadow of turning. Thou never failest them that trust in Thee, and Thy mercy toward them that fear Thee is from everlasting to everlasting.

We confess, O Lord, that our sins have risen up toward heaven as a thick cloud. By thought and word and deed

we have provoked Thee to anger. We have grieved and vexed Thy Holy Spirit by our continual backslidings. Spare us, O merciful Father, we humbly beseech Thee, and cast us not away from Thy presence. Though we be tied and bound by the chain of our sins, yet let the pitifulness of Thy great mercy loose us.

We plead before Thee the great work of redemption which Christ hath wrought on our behalf. He hath died the just for the unjust. He hath borne our sins in His own body on the tree. O look upon Him wounded and bruised for our iniquities, and may His death answer for all our guilt. Impute not unto us the sins which we have done, but behold us with Thy merciful favour for His sake.

We plead with Thee, O Lord, Thine own faithful promises. Thou art God, and Thy words be true, and that which

Thou hast spoken with Thy mouth Thou wilt fulfil with Thy hand. Thou hast promised eternal life to those that believe in Christ. Thou hast promised deliverance from the guilt and power of sin to all who seek Thy face. Grant us these blessings we humbly beseech Thee. Give us Thy grace on earth and Thy glory in the world to come.

Be Thou our refuge in the day of trouble. When trials come Thou only canst support and comfort us. Be Thou our Stronghold, our Hiding-place, and our Covert from the storm and tempest. Teach us, O Lord, to fear the judgments which Thou hast pronounced against such as neglect Thy salvation. Thou art faithful to Thy promises : Thou art likewise faithful to the threatenings of Thy Word. O teach each one of us to flee from Thy wrath and take refuge in Thy mercy. If any before Thee are yet un-

saved, do Thou lead them this night to turn unto Thee, and wash us every one in the fountain opened for sin and uncleanness.

O Lord Jesus, abide with us by night and by day, and amidst the changes and chances of this mortal life may we ever lean on Thee, who art the same yesterday, to-day, and for ever. Keep us near to Thyself this night. May our last thoughts be of Thee. Refresh us with quiet rest, and raise us up on the morrow strengthened to serve and please Thee. Hear us for Thy name's sake. Amen.

Our Father, etc.

Tuesday Morning.

[FIRST WEEK.]

O GOD, the Father of mercies and the God of all comfort, we come to Thee this morning as our Father in Christ Jesus. Thy name is Love, and we pray Thee this day deal with us after Thy mercy and loving-kindness.

O gracious and merciful Father, Thou art the God of all the families of the earth. Thou delightest to bless the households of such as serve and honour Thee. We need Thy help continually. Except Thou dost build the house, their labour is but lost that build it. Except Thou be our Guardian and Keeper, the watchman waketh but in vain. Let Thy

presence ever be our defence and our glory. As the pillar of cloud rested over the tabernacles of Israel, so be Thou nigh unto us to keep us and to guide us. May this dwelling-place ever be overshadowed by Thy Fatherly care. Make this home a nursery for heaven. Send us Thy Spirit and make us humble and teachable, sitting at the feet of Jesus. Let the lamp of Thy blessed Word be a light to guide and direct our footsteps. Shed abroad in our hearts Thy heavenly grace, and kindle within us the flame of Divine love. Make us to love Thee with all our soul, and with all our strength, and to love our neighbour as ourselves.

Shut out of our home whatsoever may be hurtful either to our souls or bodies. Implant and cherish within us every good and holy desire. Enlighten our minds in the study of Thy Word that we may learn the secrets of heavenly

wisdom. Stablish and settle us in right principle, that we may never follow a multitude to do evil. Hold up our goings in Thy ways that our footsteps slip not. And when heart and flesh fail, be Thou the strength of our heart and our portion for ever.

O Heavenly Father, whose never-failing providence ordereth all things both in heaven and earth, protect and bless our beloved country. Direct the counsels of those set in authority over us. Be nigh to our Sovereign Lady Queen Victoria. Rule her heart in Thy faith and fear, and endue her with the riches of Thy grace. Bestow upon the lords of the Council, and on all the nobility, grace, wisdom, and understanding. Give sound judgment to the representatives of this nation in Parliament. May they so order the affairs of this nation that peace and happiness, truth and justice, religion and piety,

may be established amongst us for all generations.

Finally, we pray Thee to bless all estates of men in Thy holy Church, that every member of the same in his vocation and ministry may truly and godly serve Thee, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Our Father, etc.

Tuesday Evening.

[FIRST WEEK.]

O GOD, our Father, the merciful God, the faithful God, we come to Thee again to-night. We have often come to Thee before, but Thou art never weary of hearkening to our prayer. Thou art always more ready to hear than we to pray, and art wont to give more than we desire or deserve. O grant that we may never be weary of seeking Thy face. May it be our continual joy and delight to draw nigh to Thee, and receive the blessing Thou art so willing to bestow. We come to Thee for pardon through the precious blood of Christ. Our feet are stained with sin. We have trodden

forbidden paths. We have not walked as carefully as we should. But wash away this night all the evil that cleaves to us. Forgive the dishonour we have done Thee amongst those with whom we have mingled.

We have failed to adorn the doctrine of our Saviour. We have been too much like those who are walking after the course of this world. We have followed too much the devices of our own hearts. We have neglected many opportunities of doing good. But freely blot out all transgressions, and take us beneath Thine Almighty Wings. We need Thy protecting care. We know not what dangers may beset us, but our trust is in Thee alone. Keep us from all the snares of this wicked world. Keep us from the guile and craft of the great Destroyer. Give Thine angels charge over us and our dwelling-place, and do Thou who

never slumberest, nor sleepest, guard us during the hours of darkness.

O Thou good Shepherd of Thy flock, Thou knowest our sorrows, and understandest the secret grief of every heart. We desire to cast all our care on Thee for Thou carest for us. Whatever may be the burden that oppresses us, Thou alone canst help us to bear it. O give us grace according to our need. Undertake for each of us, and uphold us that we faint not by the way. Say to each heart, "I am thy strength and thy salvation." Help us to lift up our eyes to Thee who pleadest the cause of Thy people. Suffer no temptation to prevail against us, but lead us in Thy narrow way. Bring us in Thine own time to that blessed Home, where there is no more pain, or sorrow, or death, and where we shall see Thee face to face.

O Father, mercifully look down from

heaven on all those who are near and dear to us. Give unto them present peace in the assurance of Thy-favour, and keep them evermore in Thy faith and fear. Ward off any danger that may threaten them, and may they abide in the secret place of Thy tabernacle. Amidst all the changes and chances of this mortal life may they ever be defended by Thy most gracious and ready help, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Our Father, etc.

Wednesday Morning.

[FIRST WEEK.]

ALMIGHTY and everlasting God, Thou hast called us to Thy throne of grace, and hast invited us to draw near to Thee. Thou hast bidden us in everything make known our requests unto Thee. We would obey Thy call this morning. We come to Thee as Thy children in Christ Jesus, and we ask Thee for the help we so greatly need.

O Lord, pour upon us richly the spirit of prayer and supplication. Dispose our hearts to seek Thy face. Give us an earnest desire for Thy salvation. Give us holy boldness in approaching Thee

through the blood and mediation of Thine only-begotten Son.

We come to Thee, most merciful Father, and would cast on Thee all our burdens and our cares. Thou knowest that we are often cast down by the various trials of the way, but Thy hand is in every sorrow and in every disappointment. If we meet with wrong and injury through our fellow-men, teach us to realize that Thou hast permitted it for our good. If others speak evil of us, and judge us harshly, may we rest in Thy faithfulness and love. Keep us from the least wilful misdoing, and do Thou in Thine own time bring forth our righteousness as the light, and our judgment as the noonday. If pain and suffering be appointed for us, do Thou give us cheerful submission to Thy will, and in due season restore us again to health and strength. Give us a full persuasion that all our



steps are ordered by Thee, and may we see Thy wisdom and love in everything that befalls us.

May we this day remember that we are called by Thy name. We are pledged to fight manfully under Christ's banner against sin, the world, and the devil. Make us faithful to our vows and promises. Be ever at hand to succour and help us in the hour of temptation. Keep us from denying Thee, or being ashamed of Thy Word, or Thy service. Fill our hearts with inward strength, that we may confess Thy name in a sinful world. May we adorn Thy gospel by a very holy and consistent life.

O God, the King of glory, who hast exalted Thine only Son Jesus Christ, with great triumph to Thy kingdom and glory, send us Thy blessed Spirit, the Comforter. May He dwell within us, to teach us, to sanctify us, and to guide

us into all the truth. Through His grace may we mortify every besetting sin and infirmity. Take us beneath Thy gracious protection this day ; and, though we be unworthy of any favour at Thy hands, do for us far more than we can ask or think, through the worthiness of Thy dear Son Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Our Father, etc.

Wednesday Evening.

[FIRST WEEK.]

O LORD GOD ALMIGHTY, there is no God like Thee in heaven above, or in the earth beneath. Thou art Great and High and Holy. We come to Thee with the deepest humility, for we are unworthy of the least of Thy mercies. But Thou art our Father. Thou hast redeemed us by the blood of Thy Son. O give us childlike confidence in Thy fatherly love, and may we believe the promises Thou hast made to us in Christ.

We cast ourselves down this night before Thy footstool, and confess to Thee our many sins. We have too often forgotten Thee, the Giver of all we possess.

We remember the friends who show us kindness from time to time, but how seldom have we thought of Thee, our Father and our God. Thou hast nourished us, and sustained our life by Thy tender care, but we have not known or considered Thy goodness. But Thou art a God merciful and gracious, slow to anger, and of great kindness. Forgive us, we beseech Thee, all that is past, for the sake of Him who died for our sins. Give us the spirit of true and unfeigned gratitude. Teach us henceforth to live as Thy faithful and obedient children.

O merciful Redeemer, we fly to Thee as the only refuge of our souls. We hear Thy voice calling us to Thyself. Thou hast invited all who are weary and heavy laden. Thou hast promised to give us rest. Lord, we come, for Thou hast bidden us. We are weary of the evil which we have wrought; but we

look unto Thee for the rest which Thou hast promised. Give to us the rest of complete forgiveness. Grant us quietness and peace of spirit in the assurance that Thou lovest us. Refresh us with Thy grace, and make us glad with the light of Thy countenance.

O God, we beseech Thee, be gracious to this household and to all whom we love. Look upon any who may be at a distance from us, and who may be exposed to special dangers and temptations. Keep them in the hour of trial. Lead them and guide them by Thy good Spirit, and make them truly to love and fear Thee.

Have mercy upon all who live round about us, and grant that they may be numbered amongst Thy people. Turn the hearts of the disobedient to the wisdom of the just. Let those that love Thee be as the Sun when he goeth forth

in his might. Make us all to be harmless and blameless, living in holiness and love as Thy children in the midst of an evil world. We are now about to lie down to rest: let Thine everlasting arms be beneath us, and Thy sheltering wing over us. Be near to us through the hours of darkness, and when we awake may we still abide with Thee. Grant us these petitions for Jesus Christ's sake. Amen.

Our Father, etc.

Thursday Morning.

[FIRST WEEK.]

ALMIGHTY FATHER, Thou art exalted far above all blessing and praise, and yet Thou delightest in the worship of Thy people. We come to Thee this morning in the Saviour's name. We are unworthy of Thy regard, but He is worthy. We are altogether sinful in Thy sight, but He is our righteous Advocate. Look upon the face of Thine Anointed, and bless us with all spiritual blessings for His sake.

We would go forth to our daily occupations this day, and do all things as in Thy sight. Thou hast preserved our lives

from day to day. May we spend them in cheerfully doing Thy will. Teach us to walk before Thee and be upright in all our ways. May we never follow the example of those around us when it is contrary to Thy Holy Word and commandment. Give us both to will and to do according to Thy good pleasure. Lead us by Thy Spirit in the paths of righteousness. May no temptation befall us which we are unable to resist. Clothe us with the armour of righteousness, on the right hand and on the left. Prepare us against every assault of the Tempter. Keep us ever watchful and prayerful, and may we at all times lean only on the hope of Thy heavenly grace given to us in Christ.

O Lord Jesus, be Thou our light in this dark world. Thou hast come to us as the Day-spring from on high, to give light to them that sit in darkness and in

the shadow of death. Thou art the Bright and Morning Star : yea, Thou art the very Sun of Righteousness, who hast arisen with healing in Thy wings.

With Thee is the light of mercy and forgiveness for every sin-burdened conscience. With Thee is the light of love for the friendless and the desolate. With Thee is the light of hope for those who are ready to despair. O come, Thou Light of men, and scatter all our darkness ! Awaken us from the slumber of spiritual death. Take from us all indolence and sloth. Kindle within us the flame of Divine love. Fill us with Thy light and joy. Make us to reflect Thine own image, and may we shine as lights in the world.

O Lord, we plead with Thee for those who have not the same comforts which we enjoy. Thou God of mercy and love, be nigh to succour the poor and needy.

Be Thou the Father of the fatherless and the God of the widow. May all who are in distress have grace to bring to Thee their cares and their necessities. May those who are poor in this world be rich in faith, and rest satisfied that Thou doest all things well. Teach us all that the time is short, and that our light afflictions are but for a moment. May we so pass the waves of this troublesome world, that we finally come to the land of everlasting life, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Our Father, etc.

Thursday Evening.

[FIRST WEEK.]

O God, the Father of mercies, and the God of all comfort, we come to Thee this night, and desire to commit ourselves to Thy merciful keeping. Watch over us during the hours of darkness, and refresh us with quiet rest. The darkness is no darkness with Thee, but the darkness and the light are both alike. Thine eye is ever upon us, and Thine arm is Almighty to defend and protect us.

O Lord, Thou hast taught us in Thy Holy Word to be ready at all times for the coming of the Son of Man. We

know not the day nor the hour of His appearing. When men cry, Peace and safety, and all around is wrapped in silence, then may we hear the voice of the archangel and the trump of God. O Lord, prepare us for that great and solemn Day. Clothe us with the wedding garment of the Saviour's righteousness. Blot out all our sins through His most precious blood. Cover us with the covering of Thy Spirit. Endue us with innocency of life, and make us holy in all manner of conversation.

We beseech Thee, O most merciful Father, quicken our cold and careless hearts, that we may watch and pray continually. May our loins be girded about and our lights burning. May we be like unto men who wait for their Lord, that when He cometh and knocketh we may open unto Him immediately.

O Lord Jesus, who art the resurrection

and the life, fill our hearts with holy joy in the prospect of Thy coming kingdom. Thou shalt raise up those that sleep in Thee. Thou shalt change our vile bodies that they may be made like unto Thy glorious body. May we live day by day as Thy true servants, and may we look forward in assurance of hope to that blessed time.

O God, we beseech Thee mercifully shield and protect every member of this family. There may be some whom Thou knowest to be in special danger. Health may be failing, or a sudden accident may bring peril when least expected. Be gracious to Thy servants according to their need. Keep them evermore beneath the covert of Thine almighty wing. Give us that which will tend most to our everlasting welfare. Grant us that which is requisite for our present comfort, if it be Thy holy will ; but if it be

otherwise, help us to trust Thee and to rely on Thy Fatherly care.

Bless all our relatives and friends. We pray for all who pray for us, and we entreat Thee to give them whatsoever they need for time and eternity. Look upon all those travelling by land or by sea, and be near to help them in the hour of danger. Defend our soldiers wheresoever their lot may be cast, and make them faithful soldiers of the King of kings. Be merciful to all prisoners and captives. Give to them true repentance, and bring their souls out of prison that they may praise Thy name. Fulfil these our desires and supplications, for Jesus Christ's sake. Amen.

Our Father, etc.

Friday Morning.

[FIRST WEEK.]

O ALMIGHTY Lord God of hosts, Thou art the High and Lofty One that inhabitest Eternity, and yet Thou humblest Thyself to behold the children of men. Behold us this morning in Thy tender compassion. Thou knowest our frame : Thou rememberest that we are dust. We are frail and sinful, and our thoughts and desires are of the earth ; but do Thou deal with us according to Thy mercy. Be favourable to us through the merit and death of Thy dear Son. Quicken our hearts by Thy Spirit, and raise our affections to Thyself. O Lord,

we are called by Thy name and profess to be Thy servants. We have acknowledged Thee to be our God and our King. We are bound to serve Thee alone. Help us to be faithful to our calling. Make us to be witnesses for Thee in a world that denies Thee.

O Lord, Thou hast purposed that Thy people should be as the salt of the earth. Fulfil in us this Thy good pleasure. Endue us with the savour of Thy heavenly grace, and make us in all things followers of Christ. Make us meek and gentle, patient and forbearing towards each other. Make us just and true in our dealings with our fellow-men. Grant us the spirit of constant prayer, and make us Thy remembrancers. May we continually bear on our hearts before Thee the sins and sorrows of those around. Show to each of us the work Thou wouldest have us to do, and give

us strength and power faithfully to fulfil the same. Create within us the humble spirit, that we may be ready to help a little child, or speak a word in love to the poorest of Thy flock.

O Lord, we would lay ourselves and all we have at Thy feet. Be graciously pleased to use us in Thy service. O Thou good Shepherd, restore our souls whensoever we go astray. Let not our light grow dim, nor the salt lose its savour. Let us not forsake Thee, nor turn aside to that which cannot profit. Give us ever increasing life through Thy Spirit. Give us more humility, more reality, more fervent zeal, and greater love toward Thy name. Change us into Thine own image, from glory to glory, until we cast our crowns before Thee.

Have mercy upon the lost and the perishing. Stir up Thy people to seek after them, and bring them back to Thy

fold. Prosper every effort made to tell sinners of Thy love. Fetch home to Thyself the outcasts of Israel. Pitifully look upon those who have gone the furthest astray. Touch their hearts by Thy Spirit, and dispose them to return to Thee, the Shepherd and Bishop of their souls. Hear us, O gracious Saviour, and fulfil all our petitions, for Thy name's sake. Amen.

Our Father, etc.

Friday Evening.

[FIRST WEEK.]

O LORD our God, Thou art our Father, our Guardian, our constant Benefactor. Another day we have been spared in Thy mercy. Thou hast preserved our going out and our coming in. Thou hast shielded us in many dangers. Thou hast given us strength sufficient for our appointed work. O give us hearts to praise Thee for Thy goodness. May we yield to Thee our hearty thanksgivings for all Thy benefits, temporal and spiritual. May we take the cup of salvation and call upon Thy holy name.

We confess, O Lord, that we have too

often made an ungrateful return for Thy lovingkindness. We have been unprofitable servants. We have been negligent in searching Thy Word. We have not stirred up ourselves to take hold of Thee. O Lord, our hearts are full of iniquity and evil. Thou desirest truth in the inward parts, but we are all as an unclean thing, and all our righteousnesses are as filthy rags.

O Father, we would hide from Thee nothing of the sin which cleaveth to us. But we pray Thee cleanse us from all iniquity. Thou art faithful and just to forgive those who confess their sins unto Thee. We cast ourselves upon Thine abounding mercy, and do Thou wash us from every stain of guilt.

We beseech Thee, O Lord, renew us in the spirit of our minds. We are the clay and Thou our Potter, and we all are the work of Thy hands. O work in us both

to will and to do of Thy good pleasure. Mould and fashion us after Thine own image. Make us holy, pure, longsuffering, and full of charity. Make us vessels unto honour, sanctified both in body and soul. Make us very useful in the Master's service, and prepare us to every good work.

O Lord, quicken us by Thy Spirit, and help us to run the race set before us. Keep us from turning aside through the cares or pleasures of this life. Give us patience and steadfastness when hindrances arise. Uphold our goings in Thy way that our footsteps slip not. Lift us up whensoever we fall, and let us never yield to unbelieving thoughts of Thy grace or power. Help us to lay aside every weight, and the sin which most easily besets us. May we ever be looking unto Jesus, the Author and Finisher of our faith. Forgetting the

things which are behind, may we press forward till we reach the goal.

This night graciously protect this household and all those who are dear to us. Lift up the light of Thy countenance upon us. O Lord save us, and help us now and evermore, for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Our Father, etc.

Saturday Morning.

[FIRST WEEK.]

O God, Thou delightest in mercy, and hast promised to hear the prayers of Thy children. Draw nigh unto us this morning, as we draw nigh unto Thee in the name of Jesus. We come to Thee through the new and living way which Thou hast opened to us by Him. For His sake regard us in loving-kindness, and cast all our sins behind Thy back.

Keep us this day, we beseech Thee, from the manifold temptations and devices of the wicked one. Open our eyes that we may discern the danger that may be near. Keep our feet from being taken in the snare that may be laid for

us. Deliver us from all distrust of Thy providential care. May we never make use of sinful expedients to obtain that which we desire.

Thou feedest the fowls of the air and clothest the grass of the field. Help us to believe that Thou wilt provide for all our necessities and care for us in all our cares. Teach us to rely more confidently on Thy Fatherly goodness. May we seek first Thy kingdom and righteousness, and do Thou fulfil Thy promise, that all other things shall be added to us.

If for a season Thou dost try our faith, and permit us to lack anything, remind us that our Master was once poor and needy for our sakes, and had not where to lay His head. Make all trials to work together for our good, and in Thine own time send some angel of mercy to minister to our wants.

O Father, deliver us also from all pride

and vain-glory. Subdue within us every high thought that exalts itself against the knowledge and obedience of Christ. Make us willing to follow in His footsteps who was ever meek and lowly in heart. O grant us true humility. Show to us our exceeding sinfulness. In lowliness of mind may we esteem others better than ourselves. May we be willing to give place to those around us, and seek their profit and pleasure rather than our own.

O Thou merciful and faithful High Priest, who wert in all points tempted as we are, yet without sin, stand by us and succour in every season of temptation. Enable us to withstand all the assaults of the Tempter. Fortify our hearts with the promises of Thy Word. Endue us with the grace of Thy Spirit, that we may come off more than conquerors. Be Thou our arm every morning,

and our refuge and defence in the conflict of each passing day.

Have mercy, we entreat Thee, on those who are sore let and hindered in their heavenly race. There are many placed in circumstances of great difficulty, where it is doubly hard to walk with Thee and do Thy will. But, O Father, give them strength according to their day. Keep them from the fear of man, and make them constantly mindful of Thy loving Presence. Cheer them with Thy smile, and uphold them with Thy right hand.

Accept, we beseech Thee, these our prayers for ourselves and for those in trial. Bless all those who are near and dear to us, and keep us holy and blameless unto the day of Christ's appearing, for His name's sake. Amer.

Our Father, etc.

Saturday Evening.

[FIRST WEEK.]

O ETERNAL GOD, the Everlasting Refuge of Thy people, we fly to Thee as our only hope amidst the changes of this passing world. We come to Thee to-night at the close of another week. Our days and years are quickly rolling by, and we draw nearer to our latter end. Make us to know our end and the number of our days, that we may know how frail we are. Teach us to live while we live, and may we spend each day in remembrance that it may be our last. Whatever our hand findeth to do, may we do it with our might, knowing

that there is no wisdom or device in the grave to which we are going. Teach us ever to bear in mind that the end of all things is at hand. May we therefore be sober and watch unto prayer. May we walk circumspectly, not as fools, but as wise, redeeming the time.

O God, who searchest all hearts and understandest all imaginations of the thoughts, we would be honest with Thee. We would hide nothing from Thee this night. We would lay open before Thee all our ways and doings, for Thou knowest us altogether. We plead guilty before Thee. We have sinned grievously. We have failed to perform the duties to which Thou hast called us. We have neglected too much the care of our own souls, and of those about us. We have forgotten Thee days without number. We have not sought to glorify Thee in our daily life. We have all come short

of serving Thee as we should. We have been unprofitable servants. We have grieved and provoked Thee by our backslidings, and have vexed Thy Holy Spirit. But we plead Thy mercy. Help us, O God of our salvation, for the glory of Thy name, and deliver us and purge away our sins for Thy name's sake. Look upon Him who was made sin for us, that we might be accounted righteous in Him. May His blood remove each stain of evil, and purge our conscience from dead works to serve Thee the living God.

Prepare our hearts for the holy rest of the coming day. Help us to cast aside all that may have troubled or disturbed us through the week. Help us to leave behind all the concerns of business, or of our week-day work, and to rise up to nearer communion with Thee. Raise our thoughts to that better land where Thou

shalt wipe away all tears from our eyes.
O that we might day by day so live by
faith in Thy dear Son, that we might
be enabled joyfully to anticipate the
pleasures which are at Thy right hand
for evermore.

We now commit ourselves to Thy
faithful care. Give unto us quiet rest
this night, and grant us on the morrow
a day of holy joy in Thy service, and
when our days and weeks on earth are
passed away, may we dwell for ever in
Thy presence, through Jesus Christ our
Lord. Amen.

Our Father, etc.

Sunday Morning.

[SECOND WEEK.]

O BLESSED LORD GOD, our Father and our God, we draw near to Thee once more at the beginning of Thine own day. We come to Thee with thankful hearts. We would lift up our souls to Thee, and praise Thee with joyful lips. Early this day would we seek Thee. Our souls thirst for Thee, as the hart panteth after the water-brooks. O give us more and more of this holy desire. Though our souls cleave to the dust, quicken Thou us according to Thy Word.

Turn us again O Lord God of hosts, shew us the light of Thy countenance and we shall be whole.

May we this day esteem the words of Thy mouth more than our necessary food.

Direct the message spoken by Thy servants, so as to reach every heart and every conscience. Make Thine arrows sharp in the hearts of the King's enemies. Awaken the careless from the sleep of death, and bring home to every transgressor the conviction of his guilt and danger. Give to every mourning soul the sense of Thy Fatherly pity, and bind up the broken-hearted with the oil and wine of Thy grace and mercy in Christ Jesus. Let none be sent empty away from Thy courts, but vouchsafe to all the blessing and the help which they need.

Pour out Thy Spirit very richly on all who are engaged in Thy service. Especially be present to bless all the ministers of Thy Word and Sacraments. May they hold fast Thy faithful Word, and preach

its blessed truths with wisdom and with power. Teach them to lift up Christ as the Lamb of God who taketh away the sin of the world. Give them grace to exalt Him in His Work and Offices as the only Hope of the sinner. Reveal to them the exceeding greatness of His love, that He may be the joy and strength of their own souls.

We beseech Thee also, most merciful Father, send down a plentiful rain of grace and blessing upon Thy whole Church. Heal our divisions, forgive our iniquities, and bind together the hearts of all Thy children in the bond of love and truth.

Extend far and wide the borders of Thy kingdom. Bring back into Thy fold Thine ancient people the Jews, and make them messengers of Thy Gospel in all lands whither Thou hast scattered them. Take away from heathen and Mahom-

medan nations all prejudice against the name of Jesus, and lead them in humble submission to His footstool.

Turn to Thyself the multitudes in our own land who are living without the knowledge of Thy love. Touch the hearts of those who live by their daily toil, that they may seek first Thy kingdom and righteousness. And grant that those to whom Thou hast given largely of this world's goods, may rejoice to give freely and liberally for the promotion of true religion and the welfare of others. Hear us, O Father, and be with us throughout this day for the sake of Jesus Christ, our only Mediator and Advocate.

Our Father, etc.

Sunday Evening.

[SECOND WEEK.]

MOST gracious and merciful Father, we would hear Thy voice speaking to us at the close of this Thy day. O speak to us by Thy Spirit words of comfort and peace and hope. Thou knowest all the iniquities of our holy things, and all the coldness and deadness of our hearts toward Thee. But we plead Thy mercy, and beseech Thee to put away all our sins through the blood of Christ. Assure us this night that we are indeed Thine own accepted children. Fill us with joy and peace in believing. Draw nigh to us in loving-kindness, and

may we delight ourselves in the abundance of Thy goodness.

We have heard Thy Word this day, and have been reminded of the Saviour's love to us. O help us henceforth to live more in the power of Thy truth. Enable us to carry the message of Thy love to others. Help us to teach the young and instruct the ignorant. Help us to speak words of comfort to those who are cast down. May we despise no work however lowly, if by any means we can save a soul from death, or strengthen such as are weak and ready to faint. Shew us, O Lord, the work Thou hast for us to do, and give us grace to do it for Thy glory.

O Lord, we beseech Thee, reveal Thy mighty arm in the conversion and salvation of sinners. May Thy Gospel this day proclaimed make a lasting impression on many hearts. O that Thou

wouldest rend the heavens, and come down in the power of the Holy Ghost. Turn to Thyself very many of those who are now treading the broad road. We bless Thee for every good wrought by the efforts of Thy servants. We bless Thee for every soul brought to know and love Thee. But we plead for yet greater things. Come from the four winds, O mighty Spirit, and breathe upon the slain that they may live! Manifest Thy quickening power and raise up many faithful witnesses to Thyself in a world of sin and evil.

We pray Thee, O Father, take us and all whom we love under Thy care this night. May we lie down in peace and take our rest, knowing that Thou Lord only makest us to dwell in safety. Prepare us for that rest which awaits Thy people. In this world we look for tribulation, but an hour in Thy presence will

outweigh all the sorrows and trials of earth. O bring us safely to the Land of Everlasting Life, where every tear shall be wiped away, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Our Father, etc.

Monday Morning.

[SECOND WEEK.]

O ETERNAL GOD, the Creator and Preserver of mankind, the Giver of all grace, we come to seek Thy blessing this morning. We are again about to enter upon the various duties of our daily life, and we need Thy presence and Thy help continually. Let a savour of Thy holy day abide with us. May the remembrance of the words we heard yesterday strengthen us to act with a more single eye to Thy glory.

Give us a true estimate of the value of life. It is a precious talent to be used for Thee. It is a season in which

we may lay up treasures in heaven. If we use it aright, we shall have blessings from Thee, both here and hereafter. If we waste and abuse it, we shall be indeed poor and lost and undone for ever.

May we this day sow to the Spirit and not to the flesh. May we sow the seed of holy thoughts, kind and loving words, and just and righteous actions. Keep us from all sin, sloth, and self-indulgence. Whatever our hand findeth to do may we do it with our might. May we honour Thee by diligence in our appointed work. May we seize every opportunity to learn more of Thee and of Thy Word. May we watch for occasions of doing good to those around us.

O Lord, we beseech Thee, teach us to walk circumspectly, redeeming the time. Much of our life has already been spent, and we know not how short a time may

yet remain to us. Help us to live each day as if it were our last. Whilst we have the light, may we walk in the light, lest darkness come upon us. The night of death will soon come, and there is no work in the grave whither we go. Keep this ever before us, and so teach us to number our days that we may apply our hearts unto wisdom.

O gracious Redeemer, who art the All-wise Counsellor of Thy people, guide us in all the difficulties which befall us. We are often burdened with cares which we cannot escape. We know not the path we ought to take, nor the thing Thou wouldest have us to do. O make our way straight before our face. May we desire only to know Thy will, and may we readily follow the path in which Thou leadeest us. May we cast all our care on Thee, knowing that Thou carest for us. Whatsoever trials Thou mayest appoint

make them work together for our highest good.

Accept, we beseech Thee, these our prayers and supplications. Receive our hearty praises for all Thy mercies and loving-kindnesses. Pardon our many sins, negligences and ignorances, and do for us better than we can ask or think, through the merits and mediation of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Our Father, etc.

Monday Evening.

[SECOND WEEK.]

O LORD GOD ALMIGHTY, the King of kings and Lord of lords, Thou art our Father in Christ Jesus. Even as a Father pitieth his children, so dost Thou pity those that fear Thee. As one whom his mother comforteth, so dost Thou comfort each of Thine own. Thou givest us all needful blessings. O Lord, we bless Thee with grateful hearts for all Thy goodness to us.

Especially are we bound to praise Thee for the throne of grace to which Thou hast invited us. We bless Thee that we are invited to bring to Thee all our wants and necessities. Thou hast bidden

us be careful for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving to make known our requests unto Thee. Help us to delight in thus drawing near to Thee. May we come and pour out our hearts before Thee. At morning and evening, and oftentimes throughout each day, may we lift up our hearts unto Thee.

May we ever come to Thee in full reliance on the name of Thy dear Son. Look not upon us in our sinfulness and unworthiness, but look upon Him, our Righteous Advocate. Have respect to the All-sufficient Sacrifice which He has offered. O grant unto us the spirit of prayer. Open our hearts that we may long for Thy grace above all things. May we open our mouth wide to ask Thee for all we need. Give unto us the spirit of filial confidence in Thy love, and in Thy readiness to hear our prayers.

Give us likewise a ready ear to hearken to all Thy precepts, and a heart to obey Thy will when we know it. May no wilful transgression separate between Thee and our souls, nor cause Thee to hide Thy face from us. May we walk in the light as Thou art in the light, and may the image of Christ be formed in us more and more. Make this home to be a home of love, and may we all have peace with Thee through Christ, and live in peace one with the other. Subdue within us all angry tempers, and everything that would grieve Thy Spirit to forsake us.

Look down in mercy on all whom we desire to commend to Thy Fatherly care. Be nigh to all who are dear to any of us now in Thy presence. Bestow upon them Thy saving grace, and make them partakers of Thy favour on earth and of Thy glory in heaven. Have compassion upon our fallen world. Stay by

Thy mighty hand the wars and contentions that bring desolation to so many lands. Send far and wide the Gospel of peace, and dispose the hearts of many to welcome the joyful sound. Restrain the flood of vice and ungodliness that threatens to overwhelm our land, and raise up many true and faithful ministers to proclaim Thy Word.

Accept, O Lord, these our prayers and praises, freely forgive us the ills we have done this day, and keep us beneath Thy sheltering wing, for Jesus Christ's sake, Amen.

Our Father, etc.

Tuesday Morning.

[SECOND WEEK.]

O MERCIFUL GOD, our Creator and our Benefactor, our Father in Christ Jesus, we come to Thee this morning to thank and praise Thee for all Thy mercies. We thank Thee for the proofs of Thy goodness which day by day we receive at Thy hands. Thou hast given us all things richly to enjoy. Thou hast given to us home and friends, food and raiment, and Thou hast preserved us in life and health. For all this we would adore and praise Thy holy name.

But we would bless Thee most of all for Thine inestimable love in the re-

demption of the world.. Thou hast given Thy Son Jesus Christ to be a sacrifice for our sins. Through Thine infinite mercy Thou hast promised that whosoever believeth on Him shall not perish but have everlasting life. Teach us thankfully to accept the offer of Thy Salvation. Fill us with unfeigned gratitude, and teach us to praise Thee both with our lips and in our lives.

O Thou God of love, circumcise our hearts that we may love Thee as we ought. Thou art worthy that we should love Thee far above all else. But we are carnal, and our affections cling too much to the things of the world. O send us Thy Holy Spirit to break the chains which bind us so closely to earth, and draw us nearer to Thyself. Shed abroad Thy love in our hearts that we may desire Thy presence above all things. Kindle within each of us the



heavenly flame, and may it burn ever more and more brightly.

Most gracious Father, we pray Thee teach us to love one another with a pure heart fervently. May we shew to the world around that we are indeed the children of a God of love. Thou hast taught us that all our doings without charity are nothing worth. Without this, all our words and works are but as sounding brass or a tinkling cymbal. Breathe into our souls this heaven-born grace of charity. Take from us all envy and malice and unkind suspicion. Help us to put away all heartburnings, and evil speakings one against another. May we judge hopefully of the actions and motives of others. Make us gentle and forbearing towards those who wrong us, or wound us by cross and angry words.

We pray Thee, O Father, pour down Thy Spirit upon Thy whole Church,

weakened and distracted by manifold evils. Preserve amongst us the purity of the faith. Raise up a standard for Thy truth. May Thy Word ever be the light to guide and direct us, and may Christ alone be the resting-place of every heart. Deliver us from all bitterness and hatred, and whatsoever may hinder our godly union and concord. Hear us, O God, and preserve us evermore by Thy help and goodness, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Our Father, etc.

Tuesday Evening.

[SECOND WEEK.]

O LORD, our God, how excellent is Thy name in all the earth. Thou art the high and lofty One that inhabitest eternity. Thou art righteous in all Thy ways and holy in all Thy works. Help us to adore and magnify Thy name. Help us to come before Thee this night in the spirit of lowly reverence, and may we worship Thee acceptably through Thy dear Son.

O Lord, Thou hast promised to make Thy dwelling-place with the humble and the contrite. Give us true humility. Give us grace to know ourselves, and to feel deeply our ignorance, our sinfulness,

and our helpless and lost condition. We have continually broken Thy law, which is holy, just, and good. We have not walked after the example of Thy Son Jesus Christ. Most grievously have we provoked Thine anger and indignation against us. O Father, we blush to lift up our eyes to Thee, for our iniquities have increased over our head, and our trespass is grown up unto the heavens.

But look down from heaven, Thy dwelling-place, and when Thou hearest forgive. Whilst yet a great way off from Thee, by reason of our sin and unbelief, do Thou draw nigh to us. Embrace us with the arms of Thy mercy, and grant unto us a full reconciliation. We bless Thee that Christ was made sin for us when He suffered and died upon the cross. May we be regarded as righteous in Him, and do Thou cast all transgressions into the depths of the sea.

May we thus look up to Thee as our Merciful Friend, yea, as our most Pitiful and Loving Father.

O Lord, we pray Thee this night revive the hearts of Thy contrite ones. Refresh them with the dew of Thy grace, and comfort them with the assurance of Thy Presence. Do Thou dwell within us by Thy good Spirit, and make us a temple worthy of Thyself.

O God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Ghost, three Persons in one Glorious Godhead, come and make Thine abode with us, and fill us with all the fulness of Divine grace and consolation.

We beseech Thee, O God, mercifully to regard all those who claim an interest in our prayers. Thou knowest those dear to each of us now in Thy presence. O let Thy favourable kindness be upon them. Take away all pride and hardness

of heart from any who may yet be in the far country of sin. Guide the footsteps of any who may be seeking their way to Zion. Lift up those who may be depressed and sorrowful by reason of life's trials and afflictions. Speak peace to any who may be nigh to their latter end. May their feet stand firm on the Rock of Ages, and may they have no trust but in the blood and righteousness of Christ.

We commit ourselves now to Thy merciful care. May our last thoughts be of Thee, and may we rise in the morning with a fresh desire to yield ourselves to Thy service. Forgive us all our sins, and abundantly fulfil all our petitions, for Jesus Christ's sake. Amen.

Our Father, etc.

Wednesday Morning.

[SECOND WEEK.]

O LORD GOD, our Heavenly Father in Christ Jesus, we lift up our hearts to Thee this day in thankfulness for all Thy mercies. We praise Thee, O Lord, for Thy loving kindness and truth. We would not forget Thy countless benefits bestowed upon us. Thou forgivest all our iniquities, and healest all our infirmities and backslidings. Thou redeemest our life from destruction, and preservest us from dangers on the right hand and on the left. Thou givest us the bread that cometh down from heaven, and hast promised to give unto us Thy Holy Spirit.

We bless Thy holy name for all Thy goodness toward us. Help us, O Lord, to shòw forth our gratitude by living to Thy glory. May we gladly accept the gift of Thy salvation offered to us through the mediation of Thine only begotten Son. May we humbly rely on Thy free promises made to us in Him.

O blessed Saviour, the Good Shepherd of Thy flock, may Thy holy life be the pattern which we daily strive to copy. Teach us so to walk as Thou didst walk when sojourning here below. May our constant aim be to do the will of our Father in heaven. May we be gentle and meek and forbearing towards all men. May we never wilfully yield to the very least sin. May we give ourselves unto prayer, and make Thy Word the rule of our life. May we go about doing good, and watch for occasions of comforting those in distress or anxiety. Fill our

hearts with zeal and love, with patience and long-suffering, with humility and hatred of all evil. May we daily fix our eye on Thee as revealed in Thy Word, and may we be changed into the same image from glory to glory, as by the Spirit of our God.

O Lord God, who hatest nothing that Thou hast made, be merciful to all those that are walking in the way that leadeth to destruction. Turn their hearts back again to Thyself. Stir up the hearts of Thy faithful people that they may speak words in season to save the perishing. Bless the labours of Thy ministering servants, and make them useful in the salvation of souls.

O Thou Lord of the harvest, the harvest truly is plenteous, but the labourers are few. Send forth a great company of true and devoted messengers of Thy Word into all the world and crown

their labours with abundant success. Prosper all Societies for spreading Thy truth amongst Jews or Gentiles. Give unto those who manage their affairs the spirit of counsel and wisdom, and give unto those who support them the grace of cheerful liberality. May Thy Church never lack faithful ministers to proclaim Thy truth at home and abroad, nor the gold and silver needful to supply their wants.

Finally, we beseech Thee, receive our supplications and prayers which we offer before Thee for all estates of men in Thy holy Church, that every member of the same in His vocation and ministry may truly and godly serve Thee, through our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.

Our Father, etc.

Wednesday Evening.

[SECOND WEEK.]

O GOD, our Refuge and our strength, once more we approach Thee in thine own appointed way. We come to Thee, trusting only in the merits of Thy Son Jesus Christ. We beseech Thee, for His sake, favourably to hear our petitions, and to send us an answer of peace.

O Thou Shepherd of Israel, look down upon us in tender love this night. We have gone astray like lost sheep, but do Thou seek after us and restore us to Thy fold. Leave us not to perish in the wilderness of sin, nor on the mountains of vanity. Gather us with Thine arm, and carry us on Thy shoulder, for of ourselves we are unable to return to

Thee. Thou art mighty to rescue and to save. None can pluck Thy people out of Thine hand. O keep us every moment, lest we fall before the snares of the Wicked one.

We bless Thee for the pledge Thou hast given of Thy love to us. Thou hast laid down Thy life for the sheep. Thou hast bought them with Thine own Precious blood. O forsake not those whom Thou hast redeemed at such a price. Thou carest for us far more than we can imagine. Thou lovest us with an everlasting and unchanging love. Manifest to us Thy love more and more, and may we love Thee with our whole heart.

We beseech Thee, feed and nourish our souls with the ordinances of Thy grace. Make us to lie down in green pastures, and lead us beside the still waters. Let our souls be daily fed from the rich

treasury of Thy Word. May we delight in coming to Thee in secret prayer. May we be strengthened by the provisions of Thy house. Give us day by day the Heavenly manna, and may we thus grow in grace, and abound in all the fruits of the Spirit.

Be very gracious to the weak and the burdened ones. Carry in Thy bosom the lambs of Thy flock, and gently lead all that are weary and heavy laden. Deal tenderly with the suffering, the sorrow-stricken and the aged. Bear them along in the arms of Thy mercy, and uphold them lest they faint by the way. If there be any such that know Thee not, may they now learn the things that belong to their peace. May they know the time of their visitation, lest their light go out in darkness and they stumble and fall for ever.

We beseech Thee, O Lord, lead all

Thy true and faithful children in the ways of righteousness. Be Thou their Counsellor and Guide even unto death. Bring them at last to that blessed fold above, where there shall be no more sin and no more temptation. May we behold Thy face in Thy kingdom, and for ever share Thy glory.

Hear us, O Thou Good Shepherd, keep us this night from all harm, and raise us up on the morrow that we may follow in Thy footsteps. We ask all for Thy name's sake. Amen.

Our Father, etc.

Thursday Morning.

[SECOND WEEK.]

O LORD, our God, Thou hast set Thy glory above the heavens, and yet Thou hast invited the children of men to draw near to Thee. We bless Thee for the open door which Thou hast set before us. We come to Thee through Thy beloved Son in whom Thou art ever well pleased.

O Lord, our sins testify against us, for we have sinned against heaven and before Thee. We are no more worthy to be called Thy children. But in Jesus have we righteousness and strength. Accept us in Him, and impute not unto us our old sins. May His death remove

all our transgressions, and may we be clothed in His perfect righteousness. Through Him may we appear before Thee this morning as having no spot or stain of iniquity.

We beseech Thee, O heavenly Father, grant that Thy Holy Spirit may dwell within us, and make us holy as Christ is holy. Light up every secret chamber of our hearts. Shew us the evil that is there, and help us to cast it out. Expel every unholy thought and every sinful passion. Cleanse us from all selfishness and self-will. Deliver us from the bondage of evil habits. Take from us the spirit of envy and discontent, and may we never distrust Thy Word or Thy Providence.

O blessed Saviour, Thou didst for our sake bear Thy heavy cross that we might have eternal life. Do Thou help us daily to deny ourselves, and take up our cross

and follow Thee. Make us willing to sacrifice our own pleasure that we may the better do Thy will. May we choose rather a little with Thee, than to gain the whole world and lose the comfort of Thy love. Make us ready to part with all we possess, and even to lay down our lives rather than wilfully dishonour Thy name. May we in all things follow the footsteps of Thy most holy life, until we lay down the cross and receive the crown which Thou hast promised to them that love Thee.

[We beseech Thee, gracious Saviour, let Thy richest blessing rest on the younger members of this family. Guide their feet into the way of peace. Gather them with Thine arm, and carry them in Thy bosom. Teach them to remember Thee now in the days of their youth. Teach them to seek Thee early that they may find Thee. May they never reckon

it too soon to enjoy Thy love, or to choose Thy happy service.]

O Lord God, we pray Thee to bless all estates of men in Thy holy Church. Bless Thy servant Victoria, our Queen, and all the Royal Family, especially the Prince and Princess of Wales. Rule their hearts in Thy faith, fear and love, and may they evermore trust in Thy mercy. Endue with heavenly wisdom those placed in authority over this land, especially those belonging to the Council of our Sovereign. Give grace to all Members of Parliament that they may maintain Thy truth, and promote the true welfare of our country. Keep and defend us from all enemies within and without. Make us to be a people fearing God and working righteousness, for Jesus Christ's sake. Amen.

Our Father, etc.

Thursday Evening.

[SECOND WEEK.]

O MERCIFUL and gracious Father, this night we venture once more to approach Thy mercy-seat. Thou hast opened for us a new and living way through the mediation of Thy Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ. May we come boldly to Thy throne of grace, and pour out our hearts before Thee. Bow down Thine ear, O Lord, and hearken to the prayers of Thy servants.

O Lord, we are unworthy of all the mercy and truth which Thou hast shewn toward us. We have made Thee to serve with our sins, and have wearied Thee with our iniquities. We confess before Thee the sins of our country. Thou

beholdest on every side a contempt for Thy law, and a rejection of Thy blessed Gospel. Thy Sabbaths are profaned and Thy name is dishonoured. We cannot count the sins which prevail amongst us, nor worthily lament the evils which defile our land.

But we praise Thee for Thy patience and forbearance. Deal not with us after our sins, nor reward us according to our iniquities. To Thee belong mercies and forgivenesses. In spite of all our provocations, continue Thy mercy toward us.

We bless Thee for the rich provision which Thou hast made for our necessities. Thou makest Thy sun to shine upon the evil and the good, and sendest rain on the just and the unjust. Thou art kind to the unthankful and to the evil.

We bless Thee for Thy special goodness to our Island Home. Thou hast shielded us for many years from the

bitter curse of the sword. Thou hast given us liberty and freedom to worship Thee according to our conscience. Thou hast made life and property sacred amongst us.

We would bless Thee also for our family and domestic mercies. Thou hast given to us a quiet and peaceful abode, whilst Christ had not where to lay His head. Thy hand, O Father, provides us day by day with food convenient for us. Thy wing covers our dwelling-place and guards us from danger continually.

We bless Thee above all for our spiritual mercies. We would thank Thee with all our hearts for Thy salvation in Jesus Christ. We thank Thee for Thy Word which points to Him. We thank Thee for the Comforter whom Thou hast sent to teach and sanctify us. We thank Thee for Christian Sabbaths, and Christian Pastors to assist us in our heavenly

course. We thank Thee for Christian friends with whom we can take counsel by the way. We would praise Thee without ceasing for all the help and consolation Thou dost give us through Thy dear Son, and for the everlasting kingdom promised to them that love Thee.

O gracious Father, let Thy mercies be the loadstone to draw our rebellious hearts to Thee. May Thy goodness lead us to repentance. May Thy constant love fill us with the longing desire to yield ourselves wholly to Thy service.

Be pleased to forgive all that has been amiss in these our prayers and praises, and accept and bless us this night, for the sake of Jesus Christ our only Lord and Saviour. Amen.

Our Father, etc.

Friday Morning.

[SECOND WEEK.]

O God, Merciful and Gracious, Long-suffering and abundant in goodness and truth, we draw nigh to Thee this morning in the name of Thy dear Son. Draw nigh to us according to Thy faithful Word, and fill us with true and unfeigned gratitude for all Thy benefits towards us. We have laid down and risen up in peace and safety, for Thou hast watched over us. O Thou Guardian of Thy people, keep us evermore by Thy help and goodness. Preserve our souls from all evil. Preserve our going out and our coming in from this time forth and for evermore.

But we would confess before Thee our unworthiness of this Thy help and favour toward us. We have forgotten Thee days without number, and have grieved and provoked Thee by our backslidings against Thee. We have justly forfeited all claim to Thy protection, and have deserved only Thy wrath and displeasure.

O God, we flee to the refuge of Thy mercy. Have mercy upon us according to Thy loving kindness, and according to the multitude of Thy tender mercies blot out our transgressions. Sprinkle us with the most precious blood of Thy dear Son, and may we be wholly cleansed from all the guilt and defilement of our sins. Grant us the blessedness of those whose transgressions are forgiven and put away for ever out of Thy sight. Embrace us with the arms of Thy mercy ; give unto us the kiss of reconciling love ; upbraid us not, nor chide us for the days which

we have spent in the far country, but clothe us with the best robe, adorn and beautify us with the garments of salvation, and give us grace henceforth to serve Thee with joyfulness for all the goodness Thou hast shewn unto us.

O Lord Jesus Christ, Thou hast bought us for Thyself, not with silver or gold, but with Thine own blood. Make us wholly Thine. As we pray Thee for Thy pardoning mercy, so we beseech Thee grant us also grace to live henceforth wholly for Thy glory. As Thou hast forgiven us much, may we love Thee much, and strive to manifest our love in our daily walk and conversation. Give unto us a guileless spirit. Deliver us from all insincerity and hypocrisy. May our words be spoken as before Thee, and be free from all taint and leaven of deceit.

Make us honest and sincere in all our

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dealings with our fellow-men. May we rather suffer any loss than dishonour Thee or wound our own conscience. Make us also to forgive others as Thou hast forgiven us. Subdue any rising spirit of revenge when others may wrong us, or speak harshly to us. May we conquer by love. May we overcome evil with good. May we ever give the soft answer that turneth away wrath, and thus follow the holy example of Thy well-beloved Son, who was ever meek and patient towards all men.

Accept, we beseech Thee, these our prayers and supplications, and fulfil all petitions through the mediation of Jesus Christ our only Saviour and Redeemer. Amen.

Our Father, etc.

Friday Evening.

[SECOND WEEK.]

ALMIGHTY FATHER, the God of mercy, love and peace, receive us graciously as we kneel before Thee at the close of this day. Every day we have to thank Thee for fresh mercies, and to confess before Thee our perpetual backslidings. But Thy property is ever to have mercy and to forgive. Remember not against us our old sins, but shew to us the abundance of Thy grace in Christ Jesus.

We thank Thee for the Gospel of Thy Salvation. The carnal mind is enmity against Thee, and we have been enemies to Thee in our minds through wicked

works. We have provoked Thee to displeasure by our sins, and an evil conscience has made us afraid of Thy presence. But we bless Thee that Thou hast sent us a message of peace. Thou hast offered to us a full reconciliation through Christ, for He hath made peace for us through the blood of His cross. Thou hast invited us to draw very nigh to Thee in His name. O receive us according to Thy word.

O blessed Saviour, Thou hast promised to Thy people that peace which the world cannot give or take away. O grant us to enjoy Thy peace in our hearts at all times. Though we may have tribulation, Thou canst support and succour us. In every hour of sorrow do Thou enable us to lean on Thee and trust Thy faithful care. When buffeted by the waves of this troublesome world may we hide ourselves in Thee,



our Strong Habitation. When oppressed and wearied in the conflict of life, O do Thou refresh our souls with the assurance of Thy love. O Thou God of hope, fill us with all joy and peace in believing that we may abound in hope through the power of the Holy Ghost.

We beseech Thee also, O Father, bind together all the members of this household in the spirit of mutual forbearance and love. May we endeavour to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. Make us to walk in love as Christ hath loved us. Help us to cast aside all bitterness and wrath and evil speaking, and to put on, as Thine elect children, bowels of mercies, kindness, humbleness of mind, meekness, long-suffering. May we ever be ready to forgive one another even as Thou for Christ's sake hast forgiven us.

O Lord God of Hosts, the Author of

peace, give unto all nations unity, peace, and concord. Make wars to cease unto the ends of the earth.

O Thou Prince of peace, set up speedily Thy kingdom, and make Thy Word to spread far and wide. Let those who have hitherto dwelt in darkness behold Thy light and rejoice in it. Reign Thou in every breast, and set up that kingdom which is righteousness and joy and peace in the Holy Ghost.

Watch over our dwelling this night. Keep us safe beneath Thy care, and refresh us with quiet rest that we may be enabled the better to serve Thee on the morrow. We ask all, for Jesus Christ's sake. Amen.

Our Father, etc.

Saturday Morning.

[SECOND WEEK.]

LORD of all power and might, who art the Author and Giver of all good things, it is our blessed privilege to draw near to Thee in the name of Christ. Give us true joy in worshipping Thee. We adore and praise Thee for the daily mercies we have received through this week, and through our whole lives. Make us indeed thankful for all Thy benefits, and may we show forth Thy praise by living to Thy glory.

As week by week rolls by, teach us to see more clearly the shortness of time, and the nearness of eternity. Our joys and sorrows are but for a moment : but

Thou hast promised to Thy children an eternal weight of glory. Help us, O Father, to seek those things which are above. If any before Thee have neglected to seek Thy favour hitherto, may we seek Thee at once through Thy well-beloved Son. O draw us to Thyself, and open our eyes to see the vanity of things below. Keep us from making the pursuit of wealth our chief aim in life. Keep us from seeking too eagerly the success we desire.

If riches increase, teach us to use them for Thee. May we thus make Friends of the mammon of unrighteousness. If anxiety or want of any kind be our portion, do Thou bear our burden for us. In all our labours and sorrows may we glorify Thee. May we so pass through things temporal that finally we lose not the things eternal. May we seek first Thy kingdom and righteousness, and

may we be assured that all other things shall be added unto us.

O Merciful Redeemer, be Thou ever by our side. In our daily conflicts stand by us and help us. Uphold us with Thy right hand and then we shall not fall. Make us in all things to follow in Thy footsteps and to keep Thy sayings. Teach us to count all things but loss for the excellency of the knowledge of Thy love, and may we reckon a little with Thyself far better than every earthly blessing without Thy Presence.

We entreat Thee, O Father, draw us closer to Thyself by the cords of Thy love. Bless the members of this household, present or absent, with all spiritual blessings in Christ. Bind us together in one holy bond of truth and peace, of faith and charity. Prepare us for the great day of Christ's appearing. We commend likewise to Thy faithful

care our relations and friends. Watch over them for good continually, and number them amongst Thy believing people. Comfort any who may be in trouble, and restore to Thy fold any who may have gone astray from Thee. When life is over, and Thou shalt make up Thy jewels, may none whom we love be found wanting amongst Thy saints. Receive these our prayers, we humbly beseech Thee, and forgive us all our sins through the merits of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Our Father, etc.

Saturday Evening.

[SECOND WEEK.]

ALMIGHTY and everlasting God, we would call upon Thy Holy name at the close of another day and of another week. With Thee is no variableness nor shadow of turning. As our days and years roll on Thou art ever Merciful and Gracious, and ready to hear the cry of Thy children. Thy sure and faithful promises are ever the same, and we know that Thou, Lord, hast never failed them that seek Thee.

O Lord, remind us at the close of this week of the strict and solemn account which we must one day render before the judgment seat of Christ. To Thee all hearts are open, and before Thee no

secrets are hid. Thou hast declared that Thou wilt bring every work into judgment and every secret thing, whether it be good or whether it be evil. May we often remember the issues of that Great Day.

We freely confess all the sin and iniquity that Thy Searching eye hath seen in us. We acknowledge our wilful transgressions and our continual shortcomings. Search us, O Lord, and try the ground of our hearts, and where-soever we have offended against Thee graciously forgive us. Our hope is in Jesus. Look upon the All-sufficient Sacrifice which He hath offered us for our sins. We plead before Thee the blood shed for us upon the tree. Do Thou cleanse us in that blood from all iniquity. Lead us to rely wholly on the finished work of Christ, and assure us that there is no condemnation for us in Him.

O Lord, Thou hast bidden us to make supplications and prayers for all men. O give us the spirit of true charity. Quicken our hearts in this blessed privilege of intercession. Have mercy, we beseech Thee, on all the members of Thy Church. Let the dew of Thy heavenly blessing descend on all who love the name of Christ, and lean only on the hope of His grace. Strengthen by Thy mighty Spirit all those who are labouring for Thee, and prosper all the work to which Thou hast called them.

Pour water upon every thirsty soul, and satisfy every longing heart. Let Thy people everywhere be filled with the Spirit. May they be harmless and blameless, living as Thy children in the midst of a perverse and crooked generation. May they hold forth the lamp of Thy truth, and by a consistent and holy life let their light shine before men.

Raise up all those that are bowed down either by temptation or by sorrow. Give unto the rich the spirit of meekness and humility, and may they be rich in faith and in good works. Give unto the poor the grace of true contentment, and may they have treasure in heaven where neither rust nor moth doth corrupt.

Prepare each of us now before Thee for the coming day of rest. May each returning Sabbath prove a blessed foretaste of our rest above. We commit ourselves now into Thy Fatherly keeping. Be with us and guard us from all danger, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Our Father, etc.

Sunday Morning.

[THIRD WEEK.]

O ALMIGHTY GOD, the King of kings and Lord of lords, we would praise and magnify Thee as the God of all mercy and grace. We praise Thee for this day of blessing and help. Thy gate stands open wide, and Thou art calling us to Thyself. We should have forgotten Thee, and gone straightway down the road that leadeth unto death, but Thou art very pitiful and of tender mercy. Thou invitest us to return to Thee by all the ordinances of Thy house, and by all the messages of Thy Word.

O pour upon us the Spirit of grace and supplication, and may we look on Him

whom we have pierced. May we grieve for the sins which He bore, and may we rejoice that through His precious blood we can approach Thee as our Father.

We would desire this day to have closer fellowship with Thee. O God, Thou art our God, early will we seek Thee. Our souls thirst for Thee, for there is no true satisfaction if Thou be absent. Thy loving-kindness is better than life. O let us see Thy power and Thy glory this day. Take away every veil that hides from us the all-sufficiency of Christ. May we look up to Him as our Shepherd and Physician, as our Friend and Redeemer. May we trust in Him as our Merciful and Faithful High Priest, ever speaking good for us to Thee our Father in heaven.

O gracious Father, we beseech Thee make this day to be one of true profit to our souls. We are going to Thy house,

and we beseech Thee go with us, and may we feel that Thou dost meet with us according to Thy promise. May our prayers be offered in spirit and in truth, and ascend with acceptance to Thy Throne. May we lay aside all malice and envyings and evil speakings, and may we receive with meekness the engrafted Word which is able to save our souls. May we sing Thy praises with a thankful spirit, and may we thus have a foretaste of the joys of the redeemed above.

Let Thy Word this day run and be glorified, and may those who hear it receive it as Thy Word, and not as the word of man. Let Thy people in every place delight to throng Thy courts, and may Thy ministering servants be cheered by the success of their labours. Gather together the outcasts, and bring them back to Thy fold. There are many who stand in the way of sinners and sit in

the seat of the scornful. O do Thou put to Thine own hand, and constrain them by Thy grace to come to Thy house and hearken to the joyful sound of Thy Gospel.

Be very present as the refuge and strength of all Thine afflicted and sorrowing children. Be to them as a little sanctuary, wherever their lot may be cast. Leave them not comfortless because unable to meet with Thy people, but make Thine abode with them, and give them songs in this night of trial and distress.

O Lord, Thou knowest all our need far better than we can express it. Mercifully bow down Thine ear and give to us according to Thine infinite wisdom and the exceeding riches of Thy grace, for Jesus Christ's sake. Amen.

Our Father, etc.

Sunday Evening.

[THIRD WEEK.]

MOST gracious God and heavenly Father, Thou art good and doest good continually. Especially would we bless Thee for the help Thou dost afford us by Thy holy Sabbaths. May every day of holy rest be a step onward to Thy blessed kingdom.

O Lord, Thy servants this day have been casting abroad the good seed of Thy Word. Send forth the dew of Thy blessing that it may abide in the hearts of those who have heard it, and bring forth fruit a hundredfold. Grant that the evil one may not be able to catch away that which has been sown. Grant

that the stony ground may be softened that Thy Word may take deep root. Grant that neither the riches nor pleasures nor cares of this world may be able to choke the Word and prevent its bearing fruit. O let not Thy Word return unto Thee void, but may it accomplish that to which Thou hast sent it. May sinners be turned unto Thee, and Thy people filled with holy joy. Instead of the briar let there come up the myrtle tree, and instead of the thorn let there come up the fir tree. Let Thy people be as trees of righteousness, filled with the fruits of Thy grace, to the praise and glory of Thy name.

O Lord, we pray Thee, give unto each of us life eternal, which is to know Thee the only true God and Jesus Christ whom Thou hast sent. Remove the blindness which hides from us Thy glory, and make all Thy goodness pass before

us. Shew unto us the greatness of Thy love, and make us indeed partakers of its blessedness. Make us truly to believe in Jesus, and to rest all our hopes on Him. Make us to know Him as the Way, the Truth, and the Life, and may we ever walk in His footsteps.

O Father, glorify Thy name in us by renewing us in the image of Thy well-beloved Son. We are Thine, O save us by Thy mighty power. Holy Father, whilst we are in the world keep us from the evil. May the truths we have this day heard raise our hearts from earth to Thee, and enable us to triumph over the snares which surround us on all sides.

Keep us from being content with merely bearing Thy name, and may we strive in everything to live for Thy glory.

We pray Thee sanctify us by Thy truth. Without holiness no man can attain Thy glory, and we would be holy

in body and in spirit. Purify and cleanse our thoughts and motives and desires, by the inspiration of Thy Holy Spirit. May the words of our lips and the meditation of our hearts be alway acceptable in Thy sight, O Lord our Strength and our Redeemer. Knit us all together in Thy love. Unite our hearts to fear Thy name. Give unto all who love Thee one heart and one way, and may nothing separate those who are joined together in the bonds of Thy Gospel.

This night be Thou our Guardian and Protector. Bless all whom we love, and all who are loved by Thee. And grant that when all our earthly Sabbaths are past, we may be with Thee, and share Thy glory and kingdom for Jesus Christ's sake. Amen.

Our Father, etc.

Monday Morning.

[THIRD WEEK.]

ALMIGHTY GOD, our Creator, our Preserver, we come to Thee this morning as our reconciled Father in Christ Jesus. We thank Thee for the quiet rest of Thy holy day, and we pray Thee that its lessons may not be forgotten. May we cherish in our hearts whatsoever Thou didst teach us out of Thy Word, and may every day of this week be hallowed by the sense of Thy presence. Make us desirous of giving ourselves entirely to Thy service, and of living to please Thee in the duties of everyday life. Grant that in our various occupations we may not be drawn aside from the remem-

brance of Thee. Remember us, O our God, for good, through the merits of Thy Son, and may we often remember Thee and think upon Thy name.

O Lord, we beseech Thee look upon the younger members of Thy flock. They are very dear to Thee, and it is not Thy will that the least of them should perish. May they ever look up unto Thee as their Father and as the Guide of their youth. May they take Thy Word as a lamp unto their feet and a light unto their path. O keep them from being dazzled and led astray by the deceitful pleasures of a sinful world. Let them rejoice in Thy Fatherly care, and find their greatest happiness in the love of the Good Shepherd.

O God, we entreat Thee likewise to give unto all parents a due sense of their solemn responsibilities. May they ever remember the great charge committed to

them in the training of their little ones. Teach them to watch over them from day to day, and may they endeavour to bring them to Thy footstool. Keep them from all harshness and anger, lest the young be discouraged. Keep them likewise from all false kindness. May they teach the children to fear and reverence Thy holy name, and to hate all that is sinful. O may every home be a home of peace and love, and grant that both old and young may walk before Thee in holiness and righteousness all their days.

We beseech Thee, O merciful Father, give unto us, and to all who are dear to us, a single eye as to Thy glory. Give us a tender conscience, that we may never wilfully commit the very least sin. We pray Thee that our love to Thee may abound more and more as we learn to know more of Thy love to us. May we approve those things which are excellent,

and be sincere and without offence till the day of Christ. May we thus glorify Thee in our bodies and in our spirits, which are Thine.

O Lord, give unto us also a calm and quiet spirit. Keep us ever near to Thee. Empty us of all pride and self-will and covetousness, and enrich us more each day with the treasures of Thy grace. May we have our eye fixed on the crown of righteousness which Thou hast promised to them that love Thee. May we so pass through things temporal that finally we lose not the things eternal. Grant us every petition, and forgive us all our iniquities, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Our Father, etc.

Monday Evening.

[THIRD WEEK.]

O ALMIGHTY GOD, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, be merciful unto us and bless us this night. Give unto us Thy Holy Spirit to dwell within us, and make us Thine habitation. Be Thou our God, and may we ever rejoice that we are Thy people. Make us separate in heart and mind from an evil world, and may we touch no unclean thing. Sanctify and cleanse us by Thy Spirit and Thy Word, and may we perfect holiness in Thy fear. Do Thou receive us, and be a Father unto us through Christ. Grant that we may abide before Thee in filial trust and holy love, as Thy sons and daughters.

O Lord our God, teach us continually to rely upon Thy Fatherly goodness. Not a sparrow is forgotten before Thee. But the very hairs of our head are all numbered. Thou regardest every care and every sorrow that comes upon us. Thou dost pity us in all our fears and troubles. Thine eye is open by night and by day. When we feel desolate and lonely Thou art very nigh to comfort and uphold us. As Thou didst send Thine angel to Hagar in the desert, Thou art ready likewise to help us in distress. As Thou didst send Thine angel to feed Thy servant Elijah by the brook, so Thou delightest to supply all our need.

O Father, teach us to trust Thee evermore. Forgive all our unbelieving doubts and our faithless murmurings. Increase our faith, and make us joyful in Thy salvation.

O Father, we have grieved Thee

this day by our sins, but especially by our forgetfulness of Thee and Thy love. Teach us the sinfulness of forgetting Thee, who art never unmindful of us. Stir up our hearts continually by some thought of Thy goodness, or by some promise of Thy Word. May we set Thee always before us, and walk before Thee in all good conscience. Make us upright and sincere in all our dealings, and may there be no guile in our lips. May we do Thy will, not with eye service as men pleasers, but as the servants of Christ. May we serve Thee cheerfully with our whole heart, remembering all Thy love to us.

O Lord Jesus, pour down Thy Spirit upon our country. Baptize all ranks and classes amongst us with the living water of Thy grace. Bless our Queen and the Royal Family, and endue them with grace and help from above. Make

all Thy ministering servants faithfully to proclaim Thy Word. Keep them from all error in doctrine, and make them true witnesses for Thee, both by their lives and by the truth which they preach. Bless all missionaries whithersoever they have gone forth in Thy name. Prosper all their labours, and by their means gather out multitudes to be the sheep of Thy flock.

We would remember also before Thee those who are in any way connected with us. Bless all our relations and friends with Thy grace and favour. Bless them and make them a blessing to others. Fulfil, O Lord, these our prayers and supplications for the sake of Him whom Thou hearest always, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Our Father, etc.

Tuesday Morning.

[THIRD WEEK.]

O GOD, our Heavenly Father, may we look up to Thee this morning and have fellowship with Thee through Thy Son Jesus Christ. Thou art more kind than any earthly parent. Thy heart is full of pity and compassion toward us : Thy hand is full of blessing and grace. Thou art slow to anger, but ever ready to forgive and to help us. We turn to Thee for the succour that we need. We have no plea but the atoning death of Christ. Receive us at all times through Him ; and since He ever maketh intercession for us before Thy throne, do Thou abundantly answer all our petitions.

Help us, O Merciful Father, henceforth to walk and please Thee ever more and more. Teach us carefully to shrink from that which is evil in Thy sight, and to cherish that which is right and acceptable before Thee. May we honour Thee by the steadfastness of our faith, and never give way to unbelieving fears. May we love Thee above those who are dearest to us on earth, and above all things which this world can offer. Help us diligently to improve the talents Thou hast committed to our charge, looking to Thee alone to prosper us in all we do. Give us the ready ear for every call of duty, and the willing hand to give freely of that which Thou hast bestowed upon us.

O blessed Saviour, Thou hast taught us to love our neighbour as ourselves, and to do to others as we would they should do unto us. Give us the mind

and disposition thus to act. Remove the veil of selfishness that so often hides from us the claims of those around. Make us ever considerate towards those who may be in distress. Make us willing to sacrifice our own comfort and interest that we may relieve the troubles of those in sorrow or need. Teach us to give care and time and money, when Thou callest us to the sacrifice. Like the good Samaritan, may we be ready to bind up the wounds of others, and bear each others' burdens according to Thy Divine will.

O Lord, our God, remember with Thy favour Thy holy Church. Vouchsafe to every member of the same, grace, mercy, and peace; that each one in his vocation and ministry may truly and godly serve Thee. O pour out Thy Spirit abundantly in all His manifold gifts of grace. Raise up men of wisdom.

and power, who shall have knowledge of the times, and who shall be able to lift up a standard for Thy truth. Beat down Satan beneath our feet, and increase the number of Thy faithful servants in every town and city and village throughout our land.

Bless the families of all who love Thee, and may the children walk in the footsteps of their parents. Have mercy on any who have turned aside, and fulfil the prayers which have been offered for their salvation. Comfort the heart of every godly parent by the remembrance of Thy faithfulness in rewarding the prayers which are offered before Thee in true faith.

Hear us, O Father, and bless us exceedingly, according to Thy good pleasure, for Jesus Christ's sake. Amen.

Our Father, etc.

Tuesday Evening.

[THIRD WEEK.]

O LORD GOD OF HOSTS, the Everlasting King, we bow before Thee this night with reverence and godly fear. May we approach Thee with holy awe, for Thy name is Holy ; but may we also come to Thee with boldness and confidence, for Thou art Merciful and Gracious. We would enter into the holiest by the blood of Christ, and look up unto Thee crying, Abba Father. We would bring to Thee our sins and our sorrows, our wants and our cares. Forgive us all that has been amiss, and let Thy tender mercy relieve all our distresses.

We hear Thy voice, O merciful

Saviour, bidding us turn unto Thee. Thou hast said, "Come unto Me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden," and Thou hast promised to give rest to our souls. O Lord, we are grieved and wearied with the burden of our sins, and we pray Thee give us the rest that we need. Give us rest from a guilty conscience, and from all disquieting fears. Give us rest in the assurance of Thy presence and Thy love. Hide us in Thy wounded side, and be to us a covert from the storm and a shadow from the heat. Be Thou our strong Habitation whereunto we may continually resort, for Thou art our Rock and our only sure Defence.

Enable us in Thy strength to take upon us Thy easy yoke and Thy light burden. Put within us Thy love, that we may find it our joy to serve Thee. Shed abroad Thy Spirit in our hearts, that we may delight in Thy command-

ments, and never grow weary in Thy service. May we commend Thy Gospel to others by our cheerfulness in doing Thy will, and by the holy consistency of our lives.

O Lord, our God, our Father, watch over us, and all we love, through the coming night. When we lie down may we not be afraid; yea, grant that our sleep may be sweet because Thou art nigh. The day is Thine and the night also is Thine, and in both Thy hand is mighty to protect and save. Grant that whether we wake or sleep we may ever abide under Thy defence. And when the night of death shall come, may we have Thee as the Light and Life of our souls. May we live hereafter with a more earnest desire to please Thee in all things, and when our work on earth is done, may we be found meet for the inheritance of Thy saints in glory.

Finally, we bless Thee for all Thy mercies granted to us and to those who are dear to us. We bless Thee for all the comforts we have enjoyed this day, and for all Thy goodness to us through our life past. We bless Thee for days and years of health and prosperity. We desire no less to bless Thee for days of trial and affliction, for these also Thou hast sent in love to our souls. We bless Thee chiefly for Thine unspeakable gift, Thy well-beloved Son, whom Thou hast given for our salvation. We bless Thee for the means of grace and for the hope of everlasting life. Accept, O God, these our prayers and praises, through Jesus Christ our only Mediator and Advocate. Amen.

Our Father, etc.

Wednesday Morning.

[THIRD WEEK.]

O GOD AND MERCIFUL FATHER, Thou art nigh to all who call upon Thee faithfully. Draw nigh unto us this morning, and quicken our hearts to seek Thee. Thou hast been gracious to us in preserving our lives, and giving us fresh opportunities of seeking Thy face. O grant that we may live for Thee, and may each day bring us nearer to Thy rest.

O Lord, we entreat Thee, deepen Thy work in our souls. O gracious Saviour, be Thou dearer to us than any friend on earth. May the remembrance of Thy precious name fill our hearts with unspeakable joy. May our eyes be ever

looking unto Thee for all grace and help and strength. Give us great delight in Thy blessed promises. Give us the comfort of Thy Presence at all times, and be nigh to us whenever our hearts are cast down. Give us a desire to work in Thy vineyard, and may we lay at Thy feet all we possess, to be employed in Thy happy service.

O Lord, we beseech Thee, give us true humility. May we so behold Thee in Thy glorious holiness that we may abhor ourselves and repent in dust and ashes. Be merciful unto us, O God, for our sins are great in Thy sight. Wash us in the Saviour's blood and we shall be whiter than snow. As far as the east is from the west, so far do Thou remove our transgressions from us.

Help us diligently to use all the means which Thou hast appointed for our spiritual growth. May we search deeply

into the hidden treasures of Thy Word. Open our understandings that we may understand the Scriptures. May we neglect no portion of that which Thou hast revealed, but may we find it all profitable for our edification and comfort.

Teach us the value of the Mercy-seat, and may we rejoice continually that we are invited to tell Thee all our necessities. Give us more faith and reality in prayer. Let each petition be presented with a full expectation that the best answer will be granted, and may we ever behold our Great High Priest pleading on our behalf. Stir up the hearts of Thy children to seek more fellowship and communion one with the other. May we love each other as we are loved of Thee. May we bear each others burdens, and so fulfil the law of Christ.

Teach Thy people likewise to prize

more the Supper which Thou hast appointed for a continual remembrance of the death of Christ. May all Thy children draw near from time to time, and there feed by faith on Him who died for sinners on the cross.

We now go forth to the duties of another day. Guide us, direct us, counsel us in all we have to do. May our common duties be done for Thee, and be acceptable in Thy sight through Christ. May we watch over our words and actions, lest we put a stumbling-block in the way of others. Keep us steadfast in Thy fear and love, and uphold us in the hour of sorrow or temptation. Fulfil all our desires, and accept these our prayers and praises, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Our Father, etc.



Wednesday Evening.

[THIRD WEEK.]

O ETERNAL GOD, who dwellest in the High and Holy place, behold us this night with Thy favour. We cast ourselves down before Thee with the deepest humility. O God, Thou art infinite in power and glorious in majesty, but we are as a thing of nought, and frail children of the dust. Thou art from everlasting to everlasting, but our days on the earth are as a shadow, and we spend our years as a tale that is told. Thou art the thrice Holy Jehovah, but we are as an unclean thing, and our iniquities bear witness against us.

We pray Thee, O Lord, grant unto us

true brokenness of Spirit. Teach us more and more our exceeding unworthiness. Make us to know our iniquity and our sin. May we look at ourselves in the glass of Thine holy Word, and learn there our true character. May we cast away every self-righteous excuse, and own our guiltiness and just desert of Thine anger.

O God, we bless Thee that Thou hast promised to make Thy dwelling with the lowly and contrite in heart. Fulfil this promise unto us this night. Come and make Thine abode with us by Thy Good Spirit. May we rejoice that Thou art near to us as our Father and our Friend. We dare meet Thee only at the cross of Jesus. We would make His name and His sacrifice our only plea. May the sweet savour of His Sacrifice be upon us, and may we ever have peace with Thee through Him, our only Hope.

Give unto us, O Lord, the consolation of daily communion with Thee. May we hear Thy voice speaking to us continually out of Thy Word. May we delight to tell Thee all our wants, and pour out our hearts before Thee.

Let Thy quickening Spirit ever abide with us and strengthen us in Thy service. Work in us both to will and to do of Thy good pleasure. Thou art our Father, we are the clay and Thou our Potter. O forsake not the work of Thy hands, but make us perfect in every good work to do Thy will. Work in us that which is well-pleasing in Thy sight, through Jesus Christ, and cleanse us from all the imperfection that cleaves to us in His precious blood.

We plead with Thee this night for all the children of sorrow, especially for any known to us. Have compassion on the widow and the fatherless, and on those

who are anyways afflicted and distressed in mind, body, or estate. Leave them not comfortless, O Father, but lead them to take shelter in Christ as their Refuge. Mercifully look upon any who may be near unto death. Turn their eyes to Him who is the Resurrection and the Life. Let Thy rod and staff comfort them in the dark valley through which they are passing.

O Father, receive us and all we love to Thy care this night, and accept these our prayers, for Jesus Christ's sake. Amen.

Our Father, etc.

Thursday Morning.

[THIRD WEEK.]

O GOD the Father, of heaven, have mercy upon us miserable sinners.

O God the Son, Redeemer of the world, have mercy upon us miserable sinners.

O God the Holy Ghost, proceeding from the Father and the Son, have mercy upon us miserable sinners.

O Holy, Blessed, and Glorious Trinity, three persons and one God, have mercy upon us miserable sinners.

We come to Thee once more, O Lord our God, taking shame to ourselves for our sinful lives, and yet looking to Thee for all spiritual blessings in Christ Jesus. Remember not, Lord, our offences, nor

the offences of our forefathers, neither take Thou vengeance of our sins : spare us, good Lord, spare Thy people whom Thou hast redeemed with the most precious blood of Thy dear Son, and be not angry with us for ever. Regard us as Thy children for His sake, and grant to us abundance of mercy and peace.

We pray Thee, O Father, to send unto us the Spirit of Truth to convince us of sin and righteousness and judgment. May we have no confidence in any works or doings of our own, for of ourselves cometh no good thing. We have destroyed ourselves by our sins and transgressions, but in Thee is our help. Let this mercy relieve our misery, and Thy righteousness in Christ cover our unrighteousness. May we ever come before Thee, not in our own righteousness, but in that which is by the faith of Christ.

We would remember, O Lord, that without holiness no man can see Thy face. Bestow upon us the grace we need to renew us in Thine own likeness. Make us holy as Thou art holy, and let us this day walk before Thee in uprightness of heart. Teach us to live soberly, righteously and godly, in this present world. Give us a pure motive in all we do, and may it be our chief desire to please Thee in all things.

Enable us to forget the things which are behind, and press forward to those which are before. May our affections be set on things above, and not on things on the earth. Raise our thoughts continually to that merciful Saviour who is exalted to Thy right hand, and may we ever be looking for His appearing. On that day may we be found acceptable in Thy sight, and share His glory and His kingdom.

O Lord God, it is Thy will that all men should hear and believe the message of Thy salvation. Stir up the wills of Thy faithful people, that they may be zealous in sending forth able men to carry the gospel of peace to all lands. Let Thy servants who are called to this work be filled with the spirit of wisdom and love, and touch the hearts and consciences of those to whom they speak. Raise up to Thyself in every place, both at home and abroad, both amongst Jews and Gentiles, witnesses of Thy truth. Gather into Thy fold the lost and the perishing, and may the name of Christ be glorified in Thy Church. O heavenly Father, fulfil these our desires and petitions, for Jesus Christ's sake. Amen.

Our Father, etc.

Thursday Evening.

[THIRD WEEK.]

O LORD GOD, our Merciful Father, Thou art the God of all the families of Thy people. Thou beholdest our necessities; Thou carest for us in all our cares and sorrows. We pray Thee this night that Thy favour may rest upon this household. Thou hast declared in Thy Word that Thou wilt bless the habitation of the just. Thou hast promised that the voice of joy and salvation shall be in the dwellings of the righteous. O fulfil to us Thy gracious words. With Thy blessing let the house of Thy servants be blessed for ever.

O Gracious Father, make us each one

to live in all things according to Thy will ; by the continued help of Thy Spirit awaken any who may still be dead in trespasses and sins. Subdue and mortify all our evil passions and sinful tempers, and make us to walk as children of light. Beautify us with the holy character of our Great Example, and draw us in heart and mind nearer to Thyself.

O Thou that hearest prayer, make our prayers very acceptable in Thy sight. Keep us from all lip-worship and formality. May we never approach Thee without due reverence for Thy Divine Majesty. May Thy Spirit make intercession within us, and fill us with earnestness and reality and faith. Whenever we meet together as a family to seek Thy face, prepare our hearts to worship Thee, and plenteously answer us in Thy goodness.

Give us likewise to revere and love Thy Holy Word, and carefully to ponder its sacred truths. May we hearken to each portion that is read, as to a voice from heaven. May we hide it in our hearts, and constantly think upon it by day and by night, that we may not sin against Thee. Give to us such daily help and consolation from the promises of Thy Word that we may be strengthened to resist and overcome every temptation of the Wicked one.

Prepare us all, O blessed Lord, for the time when we must bid farewell to all earthly ties. This home must one day be broken up. We may be scattered far and wide, or death may come and summon us into Thy presence. May we be found ready for any change. May we ever abide in the love and friendship of our merciful Redeemer. May His presence be with us in the day of separation,

or in the hour of death. O grant that at the day of Christ's appearing we may all be found without spot and blameless, and be heirs together of Thine everlasting kingdom.

In Thy great love, Most Merciful Father, deal pitifully with all who love us. Have mercy upon our kindred and our friends. Bring those who are still far from Thee in true penitence to the cross of Jesus, and knit them to Him in the bonds of the covenant. Write their names in the Book of Life, and give them the victory over sin and death, for Jesus Christ's sake. Amen.

Our Father, etc.

Friday Morning.

[THIRD WEEK.]

O LORD, our God, our Father in Christ Jesus, we come this morning to praise Thee for the blessings of the past night. Thou hast guarded us through the hours of darkness. Thou hast refreshed us with quiet sleep. Be near to us also through this day. Defend us from all harm, and bestow upon us all needful good.

We bless Thee that Thou hast promised to supply all our need, and to withhold no good thing from them that seek Thee. Fulfil, we beseech Thee, this Word on which Thou hast caused us to hope. Give us the wisdom we need for

~~every difficulty.~~ Give us strength and ~~grace sufficient for every duty.~~ Give us all the day long a calm and peaceful spirit that we may be kept from serious care. May we rest in Thy promise and in Thy love. Lead us to the high rock and there help us to abide till trials and troubles are past. May Jesus ever be our Stronghold and our sure Refuge all the journey of life is over.

O heavenly Father, we give thanks to Thee for the hope which is laid up for Thy children. How great is Thy goodness which Thou hast prepared for them that love and fear Thee! We bless Thee for all the consolations which are given us in Thy Word, and most of all for Thy Fatherly pity and compassion toward us. We bless Thee for the eternal weight of glory which remaineth for Thy people.

Help us to press forward day by day, and to give all diligence to make our

calling and election sure. May we take a firmer grasp of those exceeding great and precious promises which are made to us in Christ. May we add to our faith the spirit of true courage, that we may never be ashamed of Thy name. May we increase in the knowledge of Thee, and of Thy will concerning us. Make us temperate in all our pursuits and enjoyments. Make us patient in the time of tribulation. Grant unto us grace to walk before Thee in all godliness and righteousness of life. Fill us with love to all Thy children, and may we cast a cloke of charity over their failings and infirmities.

O give us daily fresh supplies of the grace of Thy Holy Spirit, that we may not be barren nor unfruitful in the knowledge of Christ. And when the time shall come that the house of our earthly tabernacle shall be dissolved,

grant unto us an abundant entrance into Thine everlasting kingdom.

O Lord, Thou hast commanded us to pray one for another. We commend to Thy care our relations, our friends, and our neighbours. Bless all whom we love with the richest enjoyment of Thy favour, and may they count all things but loss in comparison of Christ. Bless the households of those who dwell round about us, and may they unite in serving Thee with willing hearts. Send upon our country showers of blessing, that Thy fear and love may be the strength of this land. Accept us, and fulfil all our desires, we beseech Thee, for Jesus Christ's sake. Amen.

Our Father, etc.

Friday Evening.

[THIRD WEEK.]

ALMIGHTY AND EVERLASTING GOD, we would hear Thy voice this night bidding us draw nigh to Thy mercy-seat. Thou hast called us to Thy throne of grace, and hast promised that whatsoever we ask in Thy Son's name Thou wilt give to us. O Lord, teach us to pray with a true heart, and with full assurance of faith. Give unto us all things needful both for our souls and bodies.

O Lord Jesus, we would lift our eyes to Thee, our Great High Priest and only Mediator. We would look unto Thee, once lifted up on the cross, and now

exalted to the right hand of the Father. Speak peace to every heart through Thine atoning blood. Thou art able and willing to save them to the uttermost that trust in Thee. Be Thou our salvation. Save us from the guilt of our former sins. Save us from the power and dominion of evil. Save us from all the snares and temptations of the world, the flesh and the devil. Grant us daily grace and strength to walk in the narrow way. Uphold us with Thine own right hand that we may never faint or grow weary. Keep us evermore by Thy help and goodness. Leave us not, nor forsake us till Thou hast brought us to Thy kingdom in heaven.

O Thou Good Shepherd of Thy flock, help us to follow in Thy footsteps and to walk constantly after Thy holy example. We would look unto Thee as our Great Pattern. Make us like Thyself in all

things. Give us perfect confidence in our Father's love. Make us in all things obedient to our Father's will. Make us submissive in the hour of trial, and may we drink in meekness of the cup of sorrow. Fill us with tender compassion toward those around us. Endue us with fervent zeal for Thy glory, and make us patient and longsuffering towards those who may injure us. Give us a joyful hope of coming glory. May we bear our cross, and despise the shame in blessed expectation of Thy kingdom.

O Gracious Saviour, Thou art soon coming to reign with Thy saints. Prepare us for that day. May we ever be looking for that blessed hope, even Thy glorious appearing. May we stand on our watch-tower ready to mark the first sign of Thine approach. Keep us mindful of Thy Word, and give us at that day the crown of righteousness which

Thou hast promised to them that love Thee.

(1) Merciful Father, into Thy hands we commit ourselves this night. Bless us and all Thy children everywhere, with tokens of Thy Fatherly kindness. Cast Thy bright beams of light upon Thy Church. Increase amongst us Thy fear and love, and build up Thy people in their most holy faith.

Accept our hearty thanksgivings for our temporal and spiritual blessings, and do Thou bless us ever more and more, and make us a blessing to those around us, for Jesus Christ's sake. Amen.

Our Father, etc.

Saturday Morning.

[THIRD WEEK.]

O ALMIGHTY AND ETERNAL GOD, Thou art in heaven and we on earth ; help us therefore to worship Thee with reverence and godly fear. Prepare our hearts to seek Thy face, and incline Thine ear to hearken to our cry. Thy name is Great, Wonderful, and Holy. Thou art exalted far above all blessing and praise. The very angels are unclean in Thy sight and veil their faces before Thee. But we are sinful dust and ashes, and all our works defiled by sin. May we take the very lowest place, and cast ourselves entirely upon Thy mercy in Christ.

We bless Thee that Thou art our Father. We are Thine offspring, for

Thou hast created us. Thou art the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, and through Him Thou art our Father and our God. O may we be indeed Thy children through faith in Jesus. May we be led and guided by Thy Spirit, and thus manifest that we are Thy sons and daughters. May our filial trustfulness, and our love and obedience to Thy precepts, shew day by day that we are Thine in truth.

As we draw nigh to the close of another week we would pray Thee, O Father, to glorify Thy name in Thy Church, and especially on the approaching day of rest. Let Thy name and Thy Word be everywhere honoured by Thy children. Stem the tide of profanity which is heard in our streets. Pour out Thy Spirit on the people of our land, that they may greatly fear Thee, and regard Thy day as holy and honourable. Fill

the temples of Thy grace with devout and earnest worshippers, and banish from them all lightness, formality, and irreverence.

O Lord God of Hosts, do Thou set up through this and every land the Kingdom of Thy dear Son. Cast down the Prince of darkness from his dominion over the souls of men. May the gentle reign of the Prince of Peace everywhere extend.

O gracious Saviour, make our hearts Thy throne, and subdue within us every proud thought and every unruly passion. Teach us to do Thy will more perfectly. As the angels ever hearken to Thy voice, and delight to execute Thy commands, so may it be here below. Transform us by the grace of Thy Spirit, that we may in all things know that which Thou requirest of us. Strengthen us by Thy mighty power to perform faithfully every duty, and to suffer patiently every cross laid upon us.

We beseech Thee, O Father, forgive us all our sins of thought, word, or deed, through the atoning blood of Christ. Pardon our neglects of duty, and our want of love to Thee. And give unto us the spirit of true charity, that we may ever be ready to forgive those who have in any way wronged us. Keep us henceforth from all evil, and especially from our besetting sins. Suffer us not to be tempted above that we are able, and in the hour of temptation do Thou grant us the succour that we need.

O our Father, to Thee alone it belongs to help and deliver us. Let Thy power be manifested in our salvation, and to Thee will we ascribe all the glory. Hear us and bless us, O Father, for Jesus Christ's sake. Amen.

Our Father, etc.

Saturday Evening.

[THIRD WEEK.]

MOST MERCIFUL GOD, our Father in Christ Jesus, we would come to Thee again at the close of another week. May we come to Thee with true contrition, for our sins and iniquities bear witness against us. May we come to Thee with holy boldness, for Thou art a God of mercy and love.

O Lord, we confess before Thee to night that we are unprofitable servants. Thou hast never been weary of doing us good, but we have continually turned aside from Thy commandments. We have been unmindful of Thy love, and have lived too much in forgetfulness of Thee. We have pleased ourselves instead of seeking

to please Thee. We have sought the favour of those around us, instead of seeking the honour that cometh from Thee. We have chosen the path of ease and self-indulgence, instead of taking up our cross and following Christ.

But we bless Thee, O Father, that Thy nature and property is ever to have mercy and forgive. Thou wilt abundantly pardon those who turn to Thee in true repentance. For Christ's sake receive us once more to Thy mercy, and make Thy face to shine upon us.

(1) Gracious Saviour, we pray Thee to cleanse us from all iniquity in the Fountain of Thy precious blood. We have destroyed ourselves, but in Thee is our help. O Lord, if Thou wash us not, we can have no part with Thee. Wash us thoroughly by faith in that blood which flowed from Thy wounded side.

Grant us likewise the power of Thy Spirit to cleanse and convert our hearts. Purify every thought and motive. Keep us daily by Thy mighty power, that we may never soil our garments by the least touch of sin. And when our conscience condemns us in the very least matter, teach us again to turn to Thee, that we may be at once forgiven through Thy mercy. Renew us continually by Thy good Spirit, and grant that our whole body, soul and spirit, may be kept blameless to the day of Thine appearing.

O Almighty God, the giver of all good gifts, bestow upon Thy Church the rich abundance of Thy heavenly grace. May to-morrow be a day of blessing to Thy people. Pour out the dew of Thy Spirit on all the congregations of Thy servants throughout the world. Stir up the hearts of Thy ministers, and give them great boldness in reproof sin and pro-

claiming the Gospel of Thy dear Son. Turn back many sinners from their evil ways, and restore those who have forsaken the fold of the Good Shepherd.

Be gracious, O Father, to all who are exposed to special danger and temptation. Bring into the way of truth all such as have erred and are deceived. Strengthen such as do stand. Comfort and help the weak-hearted. Raise up them that fall, and beat down Satan under our feet.

O Lord, we commend ourselves and all dear to us to Thy faithful care. Be nigh to guard us by night as by day. And bring us at last to the city where there is no night, and where the Lamb is the light thereof. Hear us, O Father, for Jesus Christ's sake. Amen.

Our Father, etc.

Sunday Morning.

[FOURTH WEEK.]

O MOST MERCIFUL FATHER, who art nigh to all that call upon Thee, be very nigh to us this day. Through Thy Son Jesus Christ we have access to Thee with boldness and confidence. May Thy Spirit rest upon us and draw us to Thy mercy-seat. Remove every veil of unbelief, and every wandering thought. Fix our desires upon Thyself, and hallow this sacred day by giving us fresh tokens of Thy favour.

We would beseech Thee, O Father, to grant us Thy special presence when we go into Thy courts. Send out Thy light and Thy truth that they may lead us. Shine into our hearts, and reveal unto us

the glory of Christ. May we behold Him as the Saviour of the world inviting to Himself the lost and perishing. May we behold Him as all-sufficient to heal our infirmities and supply all our necessities.

Blessed Saviour, teach us to know Thee and to love Thee more. May we go forth in Thy righteousness, and lean upon Thine Almighty arm. Do Thou hear and abundantly fulfil the petitions which we offer up in Thy name this day. Let Thy Word sink deeply into our hearts, and do Thou give us more faith to trust Thy promise, and more of the spirit of willing obedience to fulfil Thy commandments.

Send forth Thy Holy Spirit, and let the showers refresh the dry and thirsty ground. O that many may this day hear and believe the blessed Gospel of salvation! May those who are seeking

Thee learn to rejoice in Thee, and may those who have hitherto been forgetful of Thy love turn to Thee in true penitence. Restore any who may have gone back, and freely forgive them their backslidings and their sins. Touch the hearts of the young, and lead them early to fear Thy name. Bring the little ones to Thy footstool, and bless the labours of all those engaged in teaching them Thy Word.

Baptize Thy ministering servants with a fresh baptism of Thy Holy Spirit. Give unto them a deeper experience of the power of Thy truth, and grant them wisdom and unction and power, to proclaim it in all its fulness. Fill them with love to Christ and compassion for the souls He died to save. Make them instant in season and out of season in speaking Thy Word, and may they remember the Great day when every man's work shall be made manifest.

We now desire, O heavenly Father, to yield ourselves unto Thee. We bless and praise Thee for Thy goodness and mercy toward us. May the remembrance of Thy love lead us to present ourselves unto Thee as a living sacrifice. May the rest of our lives be wholly dedicated to Thy service. Strengthen us this day for the various temptations of the coming week. Give us abundantly of the heavenly manna of Thy word, and may we never let slip the precious truths we hear.

Be with us when alone, and may we delight in secret to pour out our hearts before Thee. Sanctify us wholly, both in body and soul, and evermore bless us with Thy love, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Our Father, etc.

Sunday Evening.

[FOURTH WEEK.]

MOST MERCIFUL AND GRACIOUS FATHER, it is our privilege at all times to come to Thee through Christ our Saviour. We would approach Thee this night with grateful hearts. We bless Thee for this day of holy rest and for all the help which Thou hast given us on our heavenward way. O that each day of rest on earth may fit us more and more for the home of Thy saints! Too often have we misused these blessed seasons of grace. Forgive, we beseech Thee, our wandering thoughts and our lifeless prayers. Forgive us that we have so carelessly heard the messages of Thy word, and

so soon forgotten them. Quicken us by Thy good Spirit, that Thy truth may be inwardly graven on our hearts. May we ever stand before Thee accepted in Thy beloved Son, and clothed in His perfect righteousness.

O Father, teach us to know the exceeding privileges which belong to all Thy believing people. Once we were far off from Thee, but Thou hast made us nigh by the blood of Christ. Once we were strangers to the covenants of promise, and living without Thee in the world. But we thank Thee that Thou hast saved us by Thy grace, and made us sit together in heavenly places in Christ Jesus. We thank Thee that Thou hast made us fellow-citizens with the saints and of the household of God. Thou hast made us Thy temple, built upon the sure foundation, Jesus Christ. Thou hast given us a foretaste of Thine ever-

lasting love. O that each of us may be indeed partakers of all these blessings of Thy grace! Let none of us fail to obtain them through our unbelief. Make us to be indeed Thy people, and may we ever manifest the reality of our faith by the holiness of our lives.

Blessed Saviour, bring each one of us near to Thee this night. If there be any amongst us who have been going astray, O do Thou fetch us home to Thy fold! Draw us, and we will run after Thee. Turn Thou us unto Thee, and we shall be turned. Break every chain that binds us too closely to the world, and knit our hearts to Thee, that we may love Thee above all.

O Thou All-merciful Redeemer, let Thy word, this day proclaimed in Thy name, bear fruit abundantly. Cast Thy bright beams of light upon Thy Church, and dispel all error and division and

formality, and whatsoever is a hindrance to Thy truth. Awaken very many to a true and saving repentance, and lead them to rely upon Thy faithful promises. Impress deeply on the minds of the young the exceeding blessedness of Thy service, and may they early choose the good part which shall never be taken from them.

Make all who have begun to serve Thee more steadfast and decided in their Christian course, and may those who have hitherto served sin henceforth choose Thy service, which is perfect freedom. O Father, breathe into our hearts Thy sanctifying Spirit, and grant that we may continue Thine for ever, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Our Father, etc.

Monday Morning.

[FOURTH WEEK.]

O HOLY AND MOST MERCIFUL FATHER, we come nigh to Thee this morning with humble thankfulness for Thy goodness toward us. For all the mercy and the help vouchsafed to us yesterday we heartily thank and bless Thee. We bless Thee for all the light and comfort given to us in Thy house of prayer.

We bless Thee for any knowledge we may have gained of Thy holy Word. It has been good for us thus to leave the world awhile, and thus to have fellowship with Thee and Thy Son Jesus Christ.

Continue to us, O Lord, through this week the blessing we have gained.

Sanctify all our toil and labour by the remembrance of Thy Presence. Go forth with us to the conflict of life, and may we act and speak as becometh Thy children.

O let Thy blessed Spirit guide and control our thoughts and ways, and make us perfect in every good word and work!

Help us, O Father, to shew forth by our daily life that we have been with Jesus. May His image be formed in us, and may His life on earth be the pattern which we ever strive to follow.

Make us patient and gentle and forbearing toward all men. Draw our thoughts and desires toward Thyself. Teach us often to frequent the Mount of prayer. Humble and subdue every vain and proud imagination, and make us willing to take the lowest room.

O Thou exalted and glorified Re-

deemer, behold Thy Church, and fulfil towards her all Thy purposes of mercy and love. Bring out Thy people from the darkness and bondage of sin, and beautify them with the garments of salvation. Manifest Thine everlasting love toward them, and draw them to Thyself by the cords of Thy love. May they perfectly know Thee, as bearing their sins on the cross, and now pleading their cause above.

O Saviour, may we know that we are Thine, and that none shall pluck us out of Thine hand. Keep us by Thy mighty power from all the evil that is in the world. May Thy love abide in us, and may we never be drawn aside by the love of present things. Sanctify us by Thy truth, and may Thy Word be our constant meditation. Bind us so closely to Thyself that we may be united together in love and sympathy one with

the other. May all who believe in Thee be of one heart and mind, and at length together behold Thy glory.

Bless and prosper throughout this week every effort which is made to advance Thy kingdom, or relieve the sorrows and distresses of our fellow-men. Stir up the hearts of Thy people that they may always abound in Thy work and service. Make them zealous in doing good, and may they watch for every open door. May Thy Spirit accompany the reading of Thy Word, and of every Christian book and tract. And now, O Father, be very nigh to us through this day and through this week, for Jesus Christ's sake. Amen.

Our Father, etc.

Monday Evening.

[FOURTH WEEK.]

MERCIFUL FATHER, look down from heaven upon us and behold us from Thy habitation of Thine holiness. We Thy sinful and unworthy children. Thou shouldest be extreme to mark what is done amiss, we cannot stand before Thee. But there is forgiveness with Thee that Thou mayest be feared. Thou knowest the uttermost of our sinful iniquity, but Thou hast provided an sufficient remedy. Thou hast given Thy dear Son to make a full, perfect, and sufficient sacrifice, oblation, and satisfaction, for the sins of the whole world. O Father, behold Him bruised for

our iniquities, and look upon us through Him. Freely and completely put away all our sin for His sake, and make us glad with the light of Thy countenance.

Renew us likewise in the spirit of our minds. We are the clay and Thou our Potter, and we all are the work of Thy hands. O work in us both to will and to do of Thy good pleasure. Fashion us in Thine own likeness. Make us holy, pure, longsuffering, and full of charity. Make us vessels unto honour, sanctified and meet for the Master's use, and prepared to every good work.

O Lord, we have rebelled and grieved Thy Holy Spirit, but withdraw not from us His sanctifying power. May He subdue within us all sinful passions, and quicken in us every holy desire. Teach us to avoid the least shadow of evil, and may we never tamper with any suggestion of the wicked one. Give us a

tender conscience, that we may discern the approach of temptation. Preserve us from every wrong temper and disposition, and draw us very near to Thyself. In all doubtful matters give us wisdom from above, that we may know what things we ought to do. Give us moreover strength and power faithfully to fulfil every duty that lies before us.

O Father, teach us to prove and examine ourselves whether we be indeed Thy faithful children. There are many in Thy Church who have a name to live but are dead in Thy sight. There are many who walk in a way that seemeth right unto them, but the end thereof is death. O let it not be so with any of us. If we have but the form of godliness, O give us the mighty power of Thy Spirit that we may live before Thee. If we have been trusting in anything we have done, do Thou shew us that all

our works are impure in Thy sight, and that we merit death and condemnation. Lead us henceforth to rely only on the meritorious death of our Surety. Make Christ our only hope and our continual dependance. May His life be our pattern, and His glory the aim of our lives.

O Father, hear us, and be Thou our Guardian and Protector this night. Keep us, and all we love, in close communion and fellowship with Thyself, through our only Saviour and Advocate Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Our Father, etc.

Tuesday Morning.

[FOURTH WEEK.]

O LORD, Thou art a God full of compassion and gracious. We need Thy help day by day. We come to Thee this morning as Thy children in Christ Jesus, and we pray Thee to make all grace abound towards us.

Grant, O merciful Father, that throughout this day we may walk before Thee, and do only that which is right in Thy sight. Give unto us a pure motive in all that we undertake. Make it our great desire so to live each day that it may bring us nearer to Thy kingdom. May we partake of our necessary food with true thankfulness to Thee, who hast

given us all things richly to enjoy. In our seasons of rest and refreshment, make us temperate in all things. In our seasons of toil and labour, make us diligent in whatsoever our hand findeth to do.

If the duty to which we are called in Thy Providence be irksome or unpleasant, let us not shrink from it, but do it cheerfully for Thy sake. May we seek Thy glory in all that we do.

Deliver us, O Lord, from being burdened by earthly cares and anxieties, and may we cast them continually on Thee. Deliver us from making an idol of worldly gain, for we brought nothing into this world, and it is certain we can carry nothing out.

Teach us this day to be forbearing and ready to forgive. We may meet with many things that may disturb our minds and try our tempers, but give us the same meek and lowly spirit that dwelt in

Christ. Make us to follow after peace, and those things wherewith we may edify one another. Make us considerate of the wants and feelings of those around us. Make us ready to give and glad to distribute. Give unto us grace to weep with those that weep, and to rejoice with those that rejoice.

O Lord, remind us this day that all below is passing away, and that we must soon enter upon an eternal state. O that every moment we may watch and pray, and still keep eternity in view! It will profit us nothing to gain the whole world, if we lose our own souls and Thine everlasting kingdom. Keep us, we beseech Thee, in the way of life. Cleanse us from all our iniquities in the blood of the Lamb. Let Thy peace rule in our hearts, and dispose us to keep all Thy commandments. Fill us with the light and power and comfort of Thy

Holy Spirit. Lead us in Thy truth, and teach us, for Thou art the God of our salvation. Remember toward us Thy loving-kindness and tender mercies. Redeem us, O God, from all our troubles, and bring us to Thy heavenly rest, for Jesus Christ's sake. Amen.

Our Father, etc.

Tuesday Evening.

[FOURTH WEEK.]

O HEAVENLY FATHER, hear our cry and attend unto our prayer as we seek Thy face at the close of another day. We have nothing to bring in our hands as the ground of our hope. We have no merit or worthiness of our own. We have to confess our manifold sins and iniquities. There is no good thing in us. Our best actions are impure in Thy sight, and our only plea is Thine abundant mercy in Christ Jesus.

O Lord our God, we bless Thee for the sure foundation which Thou hast laid in Zion. We bless Thee that Thou hast given Thy Son to bear our sins in His

own body on the tree. We bless Thee that He is the very Rock of Ages, and that none who trust in Him shall ever be confounded.

O blessed Saviour, Thou only hope of lost and perishing sinners, help us to rest our souls on Thee ! On Thee would we lay all our sins, for Thou hast died for our salvation. Wash away all our guilt in Thy blood, and set us free from all condemnation. On Thee likewise would we lay all our wants. Thou knowest how great they are, but Thy fulness is enough to supply every lack. Grant to us the spirit of true penitence and contrition. Take from us the heart of stone and give unto us the heart of flesh. Heal all our spiritual infirmities. Help Thou our unbelief. Take away from us all indifference and deadness of spirit. Open Thou our eyes that we may behold more clearly Thy marvellous



love. Beat down Satan under our feet, and enable us to overcome all temptation.

Be Thou our Friend and Comforter in days of sorrow and adversity. To Thee would we bring our griefs and our cares, and we beseech Thee to bear them for us. Speak peace to every weary burdened spirit, and give them rest in Thy faithfulness and love.

O gracious Master, draw us more closely to Thyself, and make Thy name more dear to us every day. May we lean on Thee, and do Thou uphold us with Thine own right hand. May Thy mercy and lovingkindness embrace us on every side. Let Thine everlasting arms be beneath us, and when heart and flesh fail, be Thou the strength of our heart and our portion for ever.

We plead with Thee for all the members of this family, present or absent.

Knit us together in the love of Christ, and prepare each one of us for a home above. Bless our neighbours and our friends, and may they all be the friends of Jesus. Lift up all who are cast down, and succour all who are in sorrow and distress. Guide the footsteps of any who are seeking their way to Zion, and restore by Thy grace any who have gone back from Thy ways.

Finally, we beseech Thee to have mercy on all men, and hasten the day of Thine appearing, when all sin and sorrow shall be ended. Hear us, O Saviour, for Thy mercy's sake. Amen.

Our Father, etc.

Wednesday Morning.

[FOURTH WEEK.]

O ALMIGHTY AND ETERNAL GOD, who never failest those that seek Thee, help us to call upon Thy name this morning. We have boldness of access to Thee through Thy Son. Look not upon our sins, but upon His blood shed for us. Look upon Him our righteous Advocate, who ever standeth pleading for us before Thy throne.

O gracious Father, Thou hast promised Thy blessing to all those who trust in Jesus. Thou wilt be our Shield, and our exceeding great reward. Thou wilt be our Friend, and wilt keep us wheresoever our lot may be cast.

O that Thou wouldest bless us indeed, and make us a blessing amongst others. Enlarge our hearts, and fill us with undoubting faith and abounding charity. Make us useful in our day and generation. May Thy hand ever be upon us for good, to keep us from all evil and to supply all our wants. Deliver us from all unbelief. Let us not limit Thy mercy or Thy grace. May we rely upon Thee as our Sure Helper in every time of trouble. May we lean upon Thine arm, and cease from trusting in an arm of flesh.

Thou faithful Protector of Thy people, may we rejoice in Thy covenant of love. Thou wilt be a God to Thy people and to their seed after them. Their sins and their iniquities Thou wilt remember no more. Thou wilt put Thy fear in their hearts that they may not depart from Thy precepts. Thou wilt teach them

by Thy Spirit that they may know Thee in truth.

O Lord, fulfil to us these blessed promises. Make us wholly Thine, and let Thy Spirit abide in us. Make us willing to sacrifice all we possess rather than disobey Thee, or provoke Thee to anger. We acknowledge that we are but dust and ashes in Thy sight, yet remember us in mercy, for Thy truth and righteousness' sake.

O Lord, make us as a household to honour Thy holy name. May we, and all we love, serve Thee above all. May we keep Thy way to do justice and judgment, and may we never swerve from the plain path of duty. May we fear Thee, and never withhold that which Thou requirest of us. If Thou shouldest call us to resign our dearest treasures, may we have strength to say, Thy will be done. Thou canst give unto

us far more than we yield to Thee, and Thou wilt freely give us all things that are for our profit. Help us to believe Thy love, and trust Thee to do all things for the best.

Most gracious Father, teach us that we are strangers and sojourners upon earth. Here we have no continuing city. But lead us onward to the better country. We shall soon lie down to rest awhile beneath the sod, but Thou wilt call us forth from the grave to live for ever in Thy Presence. O teach us to look forward in blessed hope. Enrich us with all the grace of Thy good Spirit, and in due season receive us to Thy glory and kingdom, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Our Father, etc.

Wednesday Evening.

[FOURTH WEEK.]

O God, Eternal, Invisible, Immortal, our reconciled Father in Christ Jesus, Thou art our refuge in all generations. Our time on earth is but as a shadow, but our hope is in Thee. This night we come to Thee once more, and we beseech Thee hide us beneath the Shadow of Thy wing.

Most merciful Saviour, the Friend of sinners, we bless Thee that Thou hast promised to be present when two or three are gathered together in Thy name. We are but a little company meeting Thy name, but do Thou manifest Thyself unto us. Come and make Thine abode with us. Draw us nearer to Thyself.

Cleanse us from all the sin of the day that is past. Fill us with the comfort of Thy love, and with the assurance of Thy favour.

O Lord, Thou art our only Advocate and High Priest. Teach us to fix our eye alone on Thee. Thou canst never plead in vain, and Thou wilt plead for every sinner that comes to Thee in truth. Plead Thou our cause, we beseech Thee. Make mention of each of us now before Thee, and write our names in the book of life.

Whenever we fail in our obedience, do Thou plead on our behalf Thy perfect fulfilment of the Divine law. Whenever we grieve Thy Spirit by our forgetfulness or neglect, do Thou still plead for us, and restore us again by a fresh supply of Thy grace. Whenever we faint along our way, and are cast down by sorrow or temptation, open our eyes to behold

Thee, standing at the right hand of God to succour and to save us. And when our last hour shall come, and we must meet the summons to appear before Thee, be Thou nigh at hand to receive us to Thyself.

Teach us, O Lord, to look forward with joyful hope to the day of Thine appearing. We believe that Thou wilt come in the clouds of heaven to take unto Thyself Thy kingdom and to reign for ever. Thou wilt put every enemy beneath Thy feet. Thou wilt raise Thy people from the dust of the grave to share Thy glory.

Prepare us by Thy grace that we may all be found watching. Stir up within us the spirit of constant prayer, and may we daily strive for the salvation of souls. May we purify ourselves even as Thou art pure. May we thus be found living as Thy faithful servants, and when

the hour of Thy return shall come, may we receive at Thy hands the crown of glory that fadeth not away.

Gracious Saviour, speak peace to our hearts this night. Be Thou our Guardian and our Friend. Watch over us, and all our kindred and friends far and near. May we see Thee close by, and when we lay down to rest, protect us from all harm and danger. Be with us in life and in death, and may we at last awake in Thy likeness. Grant this for Thy mercy's sake. Amen.

Our Father, etc.

Thursday Morning.

[FOURTH WEEK.]

O LORD OUR GOD, who alone canst order the unruly wills and affections of sinful men, we draw nigh to ask Thy grace this morning. We have a Great High Priest who is ever pleading with Thee on our behalf. Graciously regard us for His sake, and cast all our sins behind Thy back. Incline our hearts to love Thee, and to walk before Thee in holiness and righteousness all our days.

We pray Thee, O gracious Father, grant us Thy quickening Spirit, that we be not conformed to this world. May we be daily transformed by the renewing of our minds. Keep us from following the

Give us a tender
Make us to abhor
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ing all things to be right, and may we
have ever this way.

O gracious Father, stir up within us the spirit of prayer. Grant us the increase of faith, hope, and charity. In the midst of our daily duties may we see Thee ever at our right hand. Give us bright and happy thoughts of our Home above, and of Him who is gone to prepare a place for us. May we never make an idol of our business or our work. May we do all for Thy glory, and be ever looking for our rest above.

We plead with Thee, most merciful God, on behalf of Thy children scattered abroad throughout this evil world. Thou knowest those that love and fear Thee, wherever their lot may be cast. Keep them, O Father, from all the snares and temptations that surround them. Keep them from yielding to the persuasions of those that would turn them aside from Thy ways.

Have mercy upon those who are burdened with care, and give them grace to cast it all on Thee. Comfort those that are mourning for the loss of friends : uphold those that are sorely tried by the ungodliness of others : give patience to those in pain and suffering. Grant to all Thy people the aid of Thy Holy Spirit, that they may shine as lights in the world, and may be sincere and without offence till the day of Christ.

We bless and praise Thee, O God, for

permitting us thus to kneel together at the beginning of another day. We praise Thee for the rest and comfort of the past night. We praise Thee for the light of Thy Holy Word to guide our footsteps during our earthly pilgrimage. We praise Thee that Thou art always near to uphold and preserve those who trust in Thee.

We pray Thee, O Father, accept these our praises and fulfil all our petitions. Be near to us through the passing hours of this day, and keep us in safety until its close.

May all our days be spent in Thy fear and love, until we reach at last Thy heavenly kingdom. Grant this, O merciful Father, for Jesus Christ's sake. Amen.

Our Father, etc.

Thursday Evening.

[FOURTH WEEK.]

O LORD GOD ALMIGHTY, the God of our salvation, we would close this day in humble reliance upon Thy mercy. Thou hast given us this day fresh tokens of Thy favour. Thou hast permitted us again to meet as a family to worship Thee. Thou sendest us Thy Word to teach us in Thy way. Make these means of grace helpful to our souls. May the Spirit of grace rest upon us, and write on our hearts the truth as it is in Jesus.

O Lord, we would humble ourselves before Thee, for our sins and backslidings; our promises and resolutions have been as the morning cloud. We have turned

aside from Thee, and have borne but little fruit acceptable in Thy sight. We have destroyed ourselves by breaking Thy commandments and departing from Thy ways.

But, O Lord, our help is in Thee alone. Thou wouldest have us return unto Thyself. Thou wilt heal our backslidings and love us freely. In Thee the sinful and the sorrowful find mercy and grace. O take away all iniquity, and receive us graciously. Turn away Thine anger from us, and give us the joy of Thy salvation.

Let the dew of Thy Spirit lighten upon us from day to day. Deepen our contrition and increase our faith. Make us to grow in holiness and love, and in every Christian grace. Make us more steadfast in our profession of Thy name, and more fruitful in Thy service. Make us useful by our example to those around us, and may our prayers on behalf of others be

abundantly answered. May we cast away every idol, and worship and serve Thee, the only God. May we live as strangers and pilgrims on earth, waiting for the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Mercifully behold Thy household, the Church, and bestow the fulness of Thy Spirit on all who love Thee. Look upon Thy flock throughout the world, and in every land multiply exceedingly the number of Thy true servants. Make them pure in the faith, and holy and consistent in their walk with Thee.

We beseech Thee also to comfort this night all that are in trouble. Relieve the sick and suffering, and give them quiet rest. Bind up the broken-hearted with the consolations of Thy Gospel. Speak peace to the lonely and desolate. Cheer the hearts of the fainting, and assure them that Thou wilt not break the bruised reed, nor quench the smoking

flax. Be very nigh to any whom we love. Keep them from all evil, and lead them in Thy way.

Finally, we bless Thee for all Thy servants departed this life in Thy faith and fear. Give us grace to follow them in all virtuous and godly living, and may we come at last to those unspeakable joys which Thou hast prepared for them that unfeignedly love Thee. Grant this and all our petitions, most merciful Father, for Jesus Christ's sake. Amen.

Our Father, etc.

Friday Morning.

[FOURTH WEEK.]

O MERCIFUL GOD, in whom we live and move and have our being, we come before Thee this morning as Thine unworthy children. Thou hast richly blessed us in all things, but we have failed to serve Thee as we should. We have been unprofitable servants. Our light has grown dim, and the salt has lost its savour. We have had a name to live, but Thou searchest our hearts, and Thou knowest that too often we have been cold and dead. We have drawn back to an evil world. We have grown careless about our salvation, and have thought little of Thy love and mercy.

Thy Word has been neglected, and Thy mercy-seat well nigh forsaken. We have yielded to our besetting sins, and have often sunk down to the standard of those who live without Thee.

But we turn to Thee again in Jesu's name. Hide Thy face from our sins, and blot out all our iniquities. Leave us not, neither forsake us for all the evil we have done. Search us and prove us, and try the ground of our hearts. Give us deeper sorrow for sin, and make us more watchful for the time to come. Cast us not away from Thy presence, and take not Thy Holy Spirit from us.

Be nigh to help us through the hours of this day. May we walk in all good conscience before Thee. Let us not be easily provoked, and make us ready, for Christ's sake, to return good for evil. Keep us from selfishness and self-will. May we never grieve Thy Spirit nor disturb the

comfort of our home by the indulgence of evil tempers. Set a watch before our mouths, and may we never utter an unkind or hasty word. Make us very considerate of the feelings of those around us. May we put on, as Thy children, bowels of mercies, kindness, humbleness of mind, meekness, long-suffering. Above all things may we put on the garment of holy charity, and love each other as we are loved of Thee.

We would present before Thee our prayers and supplications on behalf of the nations which have not known Thee. Send forth, we beseech Thee, the messengers of Thy Gospel into all lands. The harvest truly is plenteous, but the labourers are few. Give double grace and strength to Thy servants who labour in Thy Gospel, and greatly increase their number. Raise up faithful men to proclaim Thy truth, and dispose the hearts

of many to receive it. Have mercy upon Thine ancient people the Jews, and take away their impenitence and unbelief. Breathe Thy quickening Spirit upon the multitudes who still bow down to idols which their own hands have made. Turn them from darkness to light, and from the power of Satan unto Thee. Stablish and confirm the faith of recent converts. Build up the native churches, and raise up amongst them suitable agents to carry on Thy work.

Hear us, O gracious Father, in these our prayers, and do for us exceeding abundantly above all we ask or think, for Jesus Christ's sake. Amen.

Our Father, etc.

Friday Evening.

[FOURTH WEEK.]

ALMIGHTY AND EVERLASTING GOD, our Refuge and our Defence, we come to Thee in the name of Jesus. We need Thy watchful protection this night, and we would commit ourselves, and all we love, entirely to Thy care.

As day by day so quickly rolls by, teach us to see the shortness of our sojourn on earth. In the midst of life we are in death. We bring our years to an end as a tale that is told. We know not what a day or an hour may bring forth. O teach us how frail we are, and make us diligent in redeeming the time.

We bless Thee for every comfort and every mercy which Thou hast provided for us. But we beseech Thee enable us to set our affections on those things which are above, and not on things below. Keep us from being dazzled by the world's attractions, or turned away from Thee by its riches or its honours. We would choose as our treasure the pearl of great price, and be willing to sell all rather than lose it. Help us to count all things but loss that we may win Christ, and reckon His reproach greater riches than any earthly good.

O Merciful Father, grant us the assurance of Thy favour, and may we never thirst for human praise. Thou hast bidden us trample under foot whatever would rob us of the joy of Thy salvation. If by one sinful word or deed we might gain the whole world, give us grace to refuse the tempting prize. May we

love Thee with supreme affection, and long for nothing in comparison of Thy presence here and Thy glory hereafter.

We beseech Thee, most merciful Father, pour down upon all the members of Thy Church the spirit of unfeigned charity. Teach us to love one another with a pure heart fervently. May all who bear the name of Christ abide in the unity of the Spirit. Knit together in brotherly love the members of the congregation to which we belong. Grant that all who draw near to Thy Table may regard each other as bound together in one communion and fellowship. Unite as one man all who are engaged in any work in Thy vineyard, and may we strengthen each others' hands by mutual sympathy. Fill our hearts with tender sympathy one for the other, and dispose us to bear each others' burdens, and so fulfil the law of Christ.

O God, hasten the time when the number of Thy people shall be complete, and when Thy Church shall shine forth in everlasting glory. Teach us to look forward to the marriage supper of the Lamb when all discord and strife shall cease, and tears shall be wiped away from off all faces. Clothe each of us with the fine linen, which is the righteousness of Thy saints. Count us worthy, through the merits of Jesus, to share the bliss of Thy redeemed, and to behold Thy glory for ever. Grant this, O Father, for Jesus Christ's sake. Amen.

Our Father, etc.

Saturday Morning.

[FOURTH WEEK.]

O HOLY AND MOST MERCIFUL FATHER, our Father in Christ Jesus, give us the spirit of reverence and godly fear whenever we draw nigh to Thee. Keep us from the spirit of haste and distraction in Thy presence. Keep our hearts from wandering thoughts, and may we fix our minds on Thee.

Whatever be our work this day, we need Thy blessing and Thy help above all things. Remember us with the favour which Thou bearest to Thy people. Comfort us with the assurance of Thy love, and prosper us in everything to which we put our hands.

We praise Thee, O Father, for all the bounties of Thy providence. Day by

day we are pensioners upon Thy goodness. Thou openest Thine hand and spreadest our table, and givest us all things richly to enjoy. We praise Thee still more for the unsearchable riches of Thy grace and mercy in Christ Jesus.

We beseech Thee, O God, give us grace to shew forth our gratitude for Thy great salvation by striving to make it known to others. May we endeavour to extend the knowledge of Thy truth throughout this land, and to the uttermost parts of the earth. Give us true compassion for the souls that are perishing in sin and ignorance. Have mercy upon all who are led astray by the snares of the Wicked one. Bring back the wanderers to the fold of the Good Shepherd.

O Thou Good Shepherd, who gatherest the lambs with Thine arm and carriest them in Thy bosom, behold with Thy special compassion the weak ones of Thy

flock. Deal pitifully with those who are yet weak in faith, and with such as are sorely harassed by doubts and temptations. Break not the bruised reed, nor quench the smoking flax. Give unto them that seek Thee more grace that they may perfectly know Thee as an all-sufficient Saviour, and steadfastly cleave to Thee with full purpose of heart. Bestow likewise upon the young the abundant grace of Thy Holy Spirit. Pour down Thy rich blessing upon all young persons in our Schools and Universities, and raise up many amongst them to be faithful witnesses for Thee. Give wisdom to all engaged in the work of education, and may they honour Thy Word and diligently instruct those committed to them in its blessed truths. Bless the teachers in our various Sunday-schools with the true knowledge of Thyself. May they ever seek to win

the little ones for Thee, and may the scholars have grace to remember Thee their Creator, in the days of their youth

[Look upon the younger members of this family. Make them truly Thine own. May they early seek Thee, and walk in Thy ways. Keep them from all the snares that might entrap them. Make them kind and gentle and obedient, and may they grow in grace as they grow in years.]

O Lord, prepare Thy Church for the approaching day of rest. Assist Thy ministers in pondering Thy Word, and give them a word in season when they go forth on the morrow to proclaim Thy truth. Thine hand is not shortened that it cannot save, nor Thine ear heavy that it cannot hear. O give us a large and lasting blessing, and fulfil all our petitions, for Jesus Christ's sake. Amen.

Our Father, etc.

Saturday Evening.

[FOURTH WEEK.]

O LORD GOD, the Father of mercies, the Giver of all grace, we draw near to Thee to-night in the name of Thy dear Son, Jesus Christ. Week after week and day after day passes quickly by, but Thy mercy is from everlasting to everlasting. To Thy mercy we flee at the close of this week. O receive us to Thy care, and make us wholly Thine.

O Lord, we humbly confess that we have this week been too unmindful of Thy love. Thou art the Well-spring of life. Thou art the Fountain of living waters, and the only source of holiness and peace. Thou canst fill our souls with joy and gladness. But we have forsaken Thee, the God of our salvation, and have

turned away to broken **cisterns**. We have sought our happiness in **the things** of this world more than in **Thee**. We have been ashamed of **Thy name** before others. We have yielded in **the hour** of temptation, and have disobeyed **Thy commandments**.

But we would come back to **Thee**, O Father, once more, and seek **Thy face**. Thou hast called Thy wandering ones to return to Thee, and hast promised to heal all our backslidings. O Lord, we plead with Thee to deal with us in mercy. Forgive us all that is past, and bid us sin no more against Thee. Grant us the full assurance of pardon through the death of Christ. Send Thy Holy Spirit to teach us, and to convince us deeply of our sins, and make us truly to mourn for those things that have grieved and dishonoured Thee. Give us genuine and unfeigned repentance, and make us more

watchful against sin in time to come.

O Heavenly Father, keep back Thy servants from presumptuous sins. Let them not have dominion over us. Cleanse us also from secret faults. Let us not fear the face of man, but may we ever fear Thee who hast power to save and to destroy. Teach us to walk circumspectly in the footsteps of the Good Shepherd. May we be faithful when others dishonour Thee, and may we hold fast Thy faith in the day of rebuke.

We beseech Thee, O Father, this night make the light of Thy countenance shine upon Thy servants. O that we may daily grow in grace, and be made like Thy Son Jesus Christ in all things. May the services of the morrow be helpful to us, and to all Thy people. Nourish and strengthen our souls with the words of eternal life, and lead us onward and upward to Thy heavenly kingdom. Look

upon all the dark places of the earth. Look upon the homes of vice and ignorance, and let the light of Thy Gospel dispel all the misery and sin that is found there. Look upon the lands yet under the blight of heathenism, and send forth to them the message of peace and salvation.

Into Thy hands, O Gracious Father, we now commend ourselves, and all our dear absent friends and relations. Make us all to be of one heart in loving and serving Thee. May the blood of Christ be upon us, that we may meet at last before Thy throne of glory. May the Spirit of Christ dwell within us and renew us in knowledge after Thy likeness.

O Lord, fulfil these our petitions, and draw us more closely to Thyself, for Jesus Christ's sake. Amen.

Our Father, etc.

Advent Sunday.

[MORNING OR EVENING.]

ALMIGHTY AND EVERLASTING GOD, we desire to praise Thy holy name for Thy mercy to our fallen world. According to Thy promise, Thou hast visited and redeemed Thy people. Thou hast sent to us the dayspring from on high, to give light to them that sit in darkness and in the shadow of death. Thou hast given Thy well-beloved Son to come as the very Sun of Righteousness with healing on His wings.

O do Thou waken our hearts from the sleep of sin and death, that we may behold this Great Light! The night is far spent, the day is at hand. We would

arise from all sloth and indifference. May we cast away the works of darkness and put on the Lord Jesus Christ. May we welcome Thy salvation, and daily rejoice in the blessings of Thy grace.

O blessed Saviour, come nigh to us at this season, and bid us set out on our pilgrimage with fresh earnestness and zeal. Come Thou and make Thine abode in every heart. Make this Advent season a time of refreshing to our souls. May we arise and shine as lights in the world, for Thou art unto us the Fountain of Light and Life.

O Lord Jesus, we would ever be looking forward to Thy glorious appearing. Quicken our hearts, that we may watch for that day as they that watch for the morning. Thou wilt come to take Thy ransomed ones home. Thou wilt come to raise Thy people from the grave. Thou wilt gather together Thy beloved

from the four winds, and they shall be caught up to meet Thee in the air. Thou shalt come in the clouds of heaven, and every eye shall behold Thy glory.

We bless Thee for this glorious hope, and we beseech Thee prepare each of us that we may rejoice before Thee in that Day. Grant, O Lord, that we may be found washed in Thy blood and sanctified by Thy Spirit. Having this hope, may we daily purify ourselves as Thou art pure. May we use diligently the talents committed to our charge. May we receive out of Thy fulness fresh supplies of the oil of Thy grace. Give us such true love to Thee that we may be faithful stewards in Thine household, and employ all we possess in Thy service.

O Lord, have mercy upon those that believe not in Thee, nor endeavour to do Thy will. Thou wilt come as a thief in the night. When men cry, Peace and safety,

when Thou shalt come with ten thousands of Thy saints to execute judgment upon all. Then shall men call to the rocks and hills to cover them and hide them from Thy presence. We beseech Thee, O Lord, send Thy Holy Spirit even now to reach the hearts of sinners. Teach them to flee to Thee now, as the only Refuge and Hope of their souls, that in the last Day they may not be confounded.

O Father, once more we ask Thee to give us all the grace and mercy which we need. Make us ready at any moment to meet Thy call. May we stand ever on our watch-tower, waiting for the blessed hope of Christ's appearing.

Accept these our petitions, and forgive us all our sins and iniquities, for Jesus Christ's sake. Amen.

Our Father, etc.

Christmas Day.

[MORNING OR EVENING.]

O MERCIFUL GOD, our heavenly Father, it is of Thy goodness that we have been spared to welcome another Christmas. Fill us with thankfulness and joy. We praise Thee for the revelation of Thy love in the birth of Thy dear Son Jesus Christ. Thanks be unto Thee for Thine unspeakable gift. Glory be to Thee in the highest, for the message of peace and goodwill which Thou hast sent to the children of men.

O Gracious Saviour, who wert once a babe in Bethlehem, we adore and bless Thee for Thy condescension and love. When Thou tookest upon Thee to deliver

man, Thou didst not abhor the Virgin's womb. Thou camest down from heaven to seek and to save that which was lost. Though Thou wert rich, yet for our sakes Thou didst become poor. We bless Thee for Thy tender pity and lovingkindness toward us. We bless Thee that Thou didst become the Son of man that we might be made the children of God.

O Lord Jesus, fulfil in each of us the purpose of Thy coming. Save us from the guilt and power of our sins. Take up Thy dwelling-place with us. Make our hearts a Bethlehem. May we never be so occupied with the things of earth that there is no room for Thee, our best Friend.

Give to us all the spirit of the shepherds who first worshipped Thee at Thy coming. Dispose our hearts to seek Thee for ourselves, and never to rest until we find Thee. May we behold Thy glory,

and rejoice in Thee with exceeding great joy. May we tell to others the glad tidings of a Saviour's love, and lead them likewise to worship at Thy footstool.

We would bring to Thee this day our choicest offerings. O merciful Redeemer, accept our most fervent love, and dispose us to yield to Thee every power both of mind and body. Make us Thine and only Thine for ever.

Teach us, O Lord, to follow the example of Thy great humility. Thou didst humble Thyself for our sins. Thou didst take upon Thee our flesh, and wert willing to live and die for our salvation. Make us likewise meek and lowly in heart. Make us willing to stoop to others, if by any means we can be a means of saving their souls.

We pray Thee, O Father, be present to bless and sanctify the gathering together

of friends and relations at this season. O give us a truly happy Christmas. May the thought of Thy love never be forgotten, and may we all meet at last in that happy home which is the abode of Thy saints.

Be nigh to our relations and friends who may be at a distance from us. Comfort those who are reminded at this season of the loss of any dear to them. Look upon all those who can rejoice in the blessings which Thou hast bestowed, and temper their joy with a holy fear of grieving Thee.

Bless us, O heavenly Father, with all temporal and spiritual blessings, for Jesus Christ's sake. Amen.

Our Father, etc.

Ash Wednesday.

[MORNING OR EVENING.]

O MOST MIGHTY GOD AND MERCIFUL FATHER, we would cast ourselves down before Thy footstool in true repentance and contrition of heart. Make us at this season deeply sensible of our grievous sins, that we may the more prize the salvation of Christ.

We confess, O Father, that we have rebelled against Thee and have not obeyed Thy voice. O teach us our ingratitude toward Thee. Thou hast nourished us and brought us up as Thy children, but we have gone astray from Thy commandments. We have gone into the far country, and wasted the talents committed to our care. O do Thou

create within us new and contrite hearts! Pour out upon us Thy Spirit, and give us true sorrow for our sins. Give unto us genuine repentance, and make us to hate every evil way.

O God, who art just and holy in all Thy ways, teach us to fear Thy judgments, and to turn unto Thee with all our heart. It is a fearful thing to fall into Thy hands, for Thou art the living God, and a consuming fire to those who reject Thy salvation. , O help us to seek Thee betimes, for it will be too late to cry for mercy when it is the time of justice.

O Father, we beseech Thee freely to forgive us all that is past, for Thy property is always to have mercy. Thou hast promised to blot out our sins as a thick cloud, and as a cloud our transgressions. Be favourable unto us according to Thy Word. Thou hast no pleasure in the

death of him that dieth, but rather that he should turn to Thee and live. Accept us therefore for Thy mercy's sake, and cast all our sins into the depths of the sea.

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us, and grant us Thy peace. Thou art our Righteous Advocate. Thou pleadest our cause before Thy Father's throne. Hear our prayer, we beseech Thee, and justify us freely by Thy grace.

O Lord Jesus, baptize us with Thy Holy Spirit, and dispose our hearts in all things to do Thy will. Quicken us in Thy way, and direct our steps to walk in Thy fear. Give us grace to desire the salvation of those who are yet in their sins. Teach us to pluck sinners as brands from the burning.

Pitifully behold the lost and the perishing. Restore the outcasts, and

gather into Thy fold those that have long been as sheep wandering on the mountains. Build up Thy Church in our land, and greatly increase the number of true and faithful Pastors. Preserve our countrymen, scattered abroad in various parts of the world, from the special dangers that beset them. Have mercy upon the remnant of Thine ancient people, and make them a blessing in the earth. Prosper all Societies which are labouring for the extension of Thy kingdom in the world, and turn to Thyself both Jews and Gentiles.

And now, O merciful Father, we commit ourselves to Thy faithful care. Be very nigh to us, both by day and by night, and may we press forward to the mark for the prize of our high calling, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Our Father, etc.

Good Friday.

[MORNING OR EVENING.]

O MOST MERCIFUL FATHER, we beseech Thee graciously to behold Thine unworthy children, for whom Thou didst give Thine only Son to die upon the cross. We have deserved Thy righteous anger, but Thou hast freely loved us. We have gone astray like lost sheep, but Thou hast laid on Christ the iniquity of us all. Thou hast given Him to be a ransom for our souls, and a Sacrifice for the sins of the whole world. Accept us, O Father, for His sake. Since He was punished in our stead, let Thine anger pass from us, and regard us with Thy favour.

O Lord Jesus Christ, who didst freely give Thyself for us, lead us to Thy cross, and bid us tarry there awhile, that we may ponder all Thou hast suffered for us. We thank Thee for Thine exceeding great love in thus dying for us, and for the innumerable benefits Thou hast purchased for us by Thy precious blood.

O teach us all the lessons Thou wouldest have us learn as we thus behold Thee wounded and bruised for our transgressions. O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, make us to abhor the sins which crucified Thee. Make us to shrink from the very least evil. May we never crucify Thee afresh by cherishing any wilful iniquity.

Give unto us likewise true humility. Thou didst stoop for our sakes to the shame of the cross. Make us ever willing to take the lowest place, and may we mourn with godly sorrow for

the sins which we have done. Slay in us all pride and self-sufficiency, and make us broken and contrite in heart. Give unto us meek submission to every trial appointed for us. Thou didst bear Thy heavy cross to redeem us ; may we cheerfully bear our lighter cross in obedience to Thy will. Thou didst drink even to the dregs the bitter cup of wrath which our sins deserved : may we willingly drink the cup of sorrow or suffering which for our good Thou dost put into our hands.

O Merciful and Loving Saviour, give us, we beseech Thee, stronger faith in Thy willingnes and power to save. Thou hast given to us the greatest proof of Thy love. Thou hast laid down Thy life for those that loved Thee, yea, and for those that loved Thee not.

O Lord, make us to rely upon Thy grace and mercy. Cleanse us in the

blood which Thou hast shed. May the living water of Thy Spirit purify our souls. Form in us the same mind which shone so brightly in Thee. Make us forgiving toward our enemies, and unselfish in our dealings towards all men.

O bless Thy Church, and do Thou bring many sinners to Thyself. Hasten the day when Thou shalt return in Thy kingdom, and may we then reign with Thee for ever and ever. We ask all for Thy name's sake. Amen.

Our Father, etc.

Easter Day.

[MORNING OR EVENING.]

O LORD GOD ALMIGHTY, the God of peace and love, we praise and bless Thy name this day, for the glorious resurrection of Thy Son Jesus Christ. We bless Thee that He was the very Paschal Lamb that was offered for us, and who hath taken away the sin of the world. We bless Thee that by His death He hath destroyed death, and by His rising to life again He hath restored to us everlasting life.

O Lord, we praise Thee for this pledge of Thy faithfulness and truth, in raising up Thy Son on the third day, according to His promise. Thy Word can never

fail. Thy promise is true from everlasting. O make us more bold and confident in the truth of Thy Gospel, and preserve us from all doubt and unbelief. Shew forth in us, we beseech Thee, the power of Christ's resurrection. Raise us from the death of sin to the life of righteousness. Quicken us by Thy Spirit, that we may live before Thee, and sit together in heavenly places in Christ Jesus.

O Thou Risen and Glorified Saviour, we would worship and adore Thee with our whole heart. Thou art worthy to receive honour and glory and power, for Thou wast slain, and hast redeemed us to God by Thy blood. We bless Thee that Thou art the first and the last, for Thou livest and wast dead, and art alive for evermore.

In all our troubles and temptations, may we flee to Thee, the ever-living One,

and do Thou succour us in every time of need. When those we love are called to depart hence, may we rejoice that Thou art still alive to help and comfort us. And when our last hour shall be nigh, O do Thou, who art the Resurrection and the Life, stand by our dying bed. May we recall Thy blessed assurance that he which believeth in Thee shall never die. May we pass through the gate of death, and the grave, to a blissful immortality.

O Lord, hasten the time when Thou shalt swallow up death in victory, and wipe away every tear from our eyes. Thou wilt take away the reproach of Thy people, and on that day Thou wilt change our vile bodies that they may be made like unto Thy glorious body. We shall be satisfied when we awake in Thy likeness.

O grant that this blessed hope may

strengthen and purify our hearts. Draw us more closely to Thyself, and raise our affections above the world. Make us steadfast and unmoveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord. Make us wise to win souls for Thee, and may we be instruments in Thy hand of turning many to righteousness. And when the day of the resurrection shall come may we shine as the brightness of the firmament, and as the stars, for ever and ever. Grant this, Most Merciful Saviour, for Thy truth and righteousness' sake. Amen.

Our Father, etc.

Ascension Day.

[MORNING OR EVENING.]

O ALMIGHTY AND MOST MERCIFUL FATHER, who dwellest on high, Thou beholdest all the children of men. Unto Thee would we lift up our eyes, for of Thee cometh our help and salvation.

We bless and praise Thee, O Father, for the great work of redemption wrought out for us by Christ. We bless Thee for His atoning death, and for His glorious resurrection. We bless Thee especially at this time, that Thou hast exalted Him with Thy right hand to be a Prince and a Saviour, and to give repentance and remission of sins. Grant unto us that we may thither in heart and mind ascend.

Give us hearts crucified to sin and the world, and enable us to set our affection on things above. Draw us daily nearer to Thyself, and prepare us for that place to which our Saviour Christ has gone before.

O Lord Jesus, help us to look up to Thee, and to adore Thee as our King. All power is committed unto Thee, both in heaven and in earth. O reign Thou supreme in every heart! Subdue every high thing, and bring every thought into obedience to Thyself. Conquer in us each sinful propensity, and beat down Satan under our feet. Make each one in this household to be Thy faithful soldier and servant, and may we ever hold fast the profession of Thy name.

O Lord Jesus, Thou art also the Great High Priest of Thy Church. Thou art ever pleading before the throne for those who trust in Thy name. We pray Thee,

undertake for us, for we are sore let and hindered in running the race set before us. Succour us when we are tempted, and let no iniquity have dominion over us. May we trust Thy faithful care, and remind us that in every trial Thou dost feel for us.

Send down to us, O merciful Saviour, Thy Holy Ghost, the Comforter. May He take up His dwelling-place in our hearts, and purify us from every idol, and from every sin. Give us to rejoice in Thee always, for Thou wilt bless us with Thy favour and defend us from all harm. O that Thou wouldest bless us more and more with all spiritual blessings, and make our joy to be full !

Lead us, O Lord, to look forward with joyful hope to the day of Thine appearing. Thou wilt return again, and we shall see Thee coming in a cloud with power and great glory. O make us ready to meet

Thee. Wash away every sin, and make us white as snow through Thy blood. Renew us in Thy likeness, and make us holy as Thou art holy. Hear us, O Lord Jesus, and bless us with all temporal and spiritual blessings, for Thy name's sake. Amen.

Our Father, etc.

Whit-Sunday.

[MORNING OR EVENING.]

MOST HOLY AND MERCIFUL FATHER, we thank and bless Thee for Thy kindness and love to the children of men. Thou hast given to us all things needful for life and godliness. Thou hast given to us a Saviour to redeem us by His precious blood. Thou hast opened the door of Thy kingdom to all who believe in Him.

We thank Thee especially this day for the fulfilment of Thy promise in sending down the Holy Ghost the Comforter. Thou didst pour forth Thy Spirit and send forth Thy Gospel into all lands.

O Merciful Father, we plead with Thee

for Thy dear Son's sake to send Thy good Spirit with fresh might and power, and to make us to be indeed temples of the Holy Ghost.

O Thou gracious Redeemer, let Thy Holy Spirit ever dwell with us and lead us into all truth. Convince us deeply of our sin, and especially of the sin of rejecting Thee. Reveal to us Thy perfect righteousness and the all-sufficiency of the atonement which Thou hast made for our transgressions. Quicken us to a new life, and sanctify us wholly both in body and soul. Comfort us with the assurance of our salvation, and shed abroad Thy love in our hearts. Thus manifest to us daily, by Thy Spirit, more of Thy grace, and of Thy delight to shew mercy to those who seek Thee.

Come, Thou blessed Spirit, and thus abide with each of us! Mortify our corruptions, and increase within us all

heavenly virtues. Fill us with love, joy, peace, long-suffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness, and temperance. Stablish us more and more in the faith of Christ, and seal us unto the day of Redemption. Exalt us at last to the same place whither our Saviour Christ has gone before, and where we shall adore Thee with the Father and the Son, three Persons in one glorious God-head, world without end.

O God, look down this day upon Thy Church, and send a plentiful rain upon Thine inheritance. Pour water upon him that is thirsty, and floods upon the dry ground. May Thy Spirit awaken and convert many who have been living without Thee. Bless this household, and make all its members, young or old, truly to love and serve Thee. Bless the parish and congregation to which we belong, and may Thy work prosper amongst us.

Turn many sinners from their evil way, and lead them in humble faith to the Saviour's footstool. May the souls of Thy children be as a watered garden, and may they be filled with all joy and peace in believing.

Send forth speedily, we beseech Thee, the message of Thy truth, and raise up faithful men to proclaim it everywhere with boldness and love. May the wilderness and solitary place be glad, and the desert rejoice and blossom as the rose. Let the wickedness of the wicked come to an end, and hasten the day of Christ's appearing, when Thy kingdom shall be established for ever.

Fulfil these our petitions, and give to us exceeding abundantly above all we ask or think, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Our Father, etc.

Trinity Sunday.

[MORNING OR EVENING.]

HOLY, holy, holy, Lord God Almighty,
which was and is and is to come,
Thou art worthy to receive glory and
honour and power. Thou hast created
all things, and upholdest all things by
Thy mighty Word. Fill us with holy
awe and reverence as we worship before
Thee.

O God the Father, of heaven, we
magnify and praise Thee for Thy good-
ness and faithfulness and truth. Thy
mercy is from everlasting to everlasting.
We bless Thee that Thou hast loved us
and sent Thy Son to be the Saviour of
the world.

O God the Son, Redeemer of the world, we praise Thee for Thy tender compassion toward us. Thou art the only begotten of the Father. Thou didst reign with Him in glory before the world was made. But Thou hast come to save us. Thou hast lived and died to redeem us from all iniquity. O help us to adore Thee with thankful hearts. With all the company of heaven may we ascribe unto Thee all wisdom and strength and honour and glory and blessing.

O God the Holy Ghost, we praise Thee that Thou hast come down to be our Guide, our Teacher, and our very Comforter in all distress. Thou dost make our hearts Thy dwelling-place. Thou dost cleanse and sanctify us by Thy powerful grace. May we never grieve Thee to leave nor forsake us, but make us temples worthy of Thyself.

O Heavenly Father, we beseech Thee to keep and defend Thy Church from all unbelief, error, and superstition. Maintain Thy truth amongst us as it is plainly revealed in Thy Holy Word. We would ever honour Thee as the Fountain of all grace and salvation. We would honour Thy Son as one with Thee, very God of very God, the appointed Judge of all mankind. We would honour Thy blessed Spirit as the Great Worker in Thy Church, one with Thee and Thy Son in one glorious Godhead.

O God, we pray Thee, lead us forward in the knowledge of Thy truth. Give us true humility, and make us as children willing meekly to receive whatsoever Thou hast revealed. Give us clearer light in understanding the doctrines of Thy Word, and stronger faith to believe Thy promises. Whatever we fail to comprehend, may we yet receive as it

is written, and look forward to the time when Thou shalt reveal to us the mysteries which as yet are hidden from us. Help us to bring everything to the law and to the testimony, and then obediently to follow whatsoever is written therein. O Father, hear our humble petitions this day. Grant unto us according to the riches of Thy glory, to be strengthened with might by Thy Spirit in the inner man. May Christ dwell in our hearts by faith. May we be rooted and grounded in love, and be able to comprehend the love of Christ which passeth knowledge, that we may be filled with all Thy glorious Fulness. We ask all for the sake of Jesus Christ our only Mediator and Advocate. Amen.

Our Father, etc.

New Year's Day.

[MORNING OR EVENING.]

O ETERNAL GOD, our Heavenly Father, Thou hast been our Refuge in all generations. Thou hast been our help in years that are past. Be Thou still our Hope and our Strength. We praise Thee for Thy longsuffering and mercy toward us. Thou hast graciously preserved our lives through the year that is past, and we are this day amongst the living to praise Thee.

O most Merciful Father, freely forgive us the sins of bygone years, and wash them away in the fountain of the Saviour's blood. May they never rise up to condemn us in the last day, but

may we rejoice that through faith in Jesus we stand before Thee free from all charge of guilt.

O Lord, teach us that our life is a precious talent committed to us by Thee. For each day and each hour we must hereafter give an account. We confess that too much of it has already been wasted. We have not used it in Thy service as we ought. We have not sought first Thy kingdom and righteousness. We have given too much of our time to the things of this world. Forgive us, we beseech Thee, and help us to live more for Thee. Help us to walk each day in the footsteps of Christ. Help us to glorify Thee in all we do. May we desire to improve each leisure moment to advance our own salvation, or to do good to those around us.

We beseech Thee, O Father, guide us continually with Thy counsel through

the coming twelvemonth. As the pillar of cloud went before Thy people in the wilderness, so direct us by Thy Word and by Thy Providence. Order our footsteps, and make our way straight before our face. Wherever our lot may be cast, be Thou our Sun and our Shield. Let Thy presence go with us, and never leave us nor forsake us.

If any of us should be called this year to pass through days of sickness or suffering, be Thou nigh at hand, and let Thine everlasting arms support and uphold us. If we should suffer any grievous loss or disappointment, do Thou cheer us with Thy smile and assure us of Thy favour. Make every loss to be our eternal gain. Whenever we are left desolate through the death of those we love, may we confide the more in Him who is the same yesterday, to-day, and for ever.

If this year Thou shouldest call any one now amongst us to bid farewell to all below, we pray Thee make us ready for the solemn change. Give to each of us even now a good hope through grace that we may never be confounded. May Thy Holy Spirit dwell within us, convincing us of sin, and leading us near to Christ. May we cast away every false dependance, and may Jesus only be the resting-place of our souls.

Hear us, O Merciful Father, and keep us evermore in Thy faith and fear. Be Thou the Strength of our hearts and our Portion for ever, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Our Father, etc.

A Prayer for a Time of Trouble

[MORNING OR EVENING.]

O GOD, our Refuge and our Strength, we turn to Thee as a very present help in this hour of sorrow and distress. We cry unto Thee, O God, now that we are overwhelmed by the great water-floods. Cast us not away because of our former iniquities, but receive us graciously for Christ's sake. According to Thy mercy remember Thou us for Thy goodness' sake, O Lord.

O Merciful God, Thou dost not willingly afflict nor grieve the children of men. In tender love Thou dost smite us with Thy chastening rod. It is Thy hand, O God, which has cast us down. We would humble ourselves before Thee, and acknowledge that Thou art just and righteous in all Thy ways. Thou dost give and Thou dost take away. Thou dost wound and Thou dost heal. ~~Thou~~

bringest down to the grave and bringest up ; but in the midst of all we would say, Blessed be the name of the Lord. Shall we receive good at Thy hands and not receive evil also ? O Lord, give us meek submission to Thy will, and help us to glorify Thee in the fires, by our patience under all Thy chastisements.

O Almighty Father, do Thou sanctify to us this time of trouble. Teach us more of the vanity of the world, and the fleeting nature of all below. Lead us closer to our risen and glorified Redeemer. O Lord Jesus, Thou knowest our sorrows, and in all our afflictions Thou art afflicted. Thy tender sympathy is our consolation and hope. Help us to remember that Thou didst weep with the sisters at Bethany, and that Thou art the same yesterday, and to-day, and for ever. In every sorrow, whatever be its cause, Thou art near to bind up the broken, bleeding heart.

O Lord, pour into our hearts the grace

of Thy Spirit, that every doubtful thought may be cast aside, and that we may hide our weary, trembling spirits, beneath the covert of Thy wing. Be Thou our Stronghold, our Refuge, our Hiding-Place. Let Thine hand supply our every need, and Thine ear be open to each sigh and groan of Thine afflicted ones.

Once more do we cast ourselves at Thy feet, O loving and pitiful Father. We believe Thou carest for us, and wilt make all things work together for good to them that love Thee. O increase our faith and trustful reliance on Thy promises. Do Thou make the storm to be a calm, that the waves thereof may be still. Bid all our sorrows cease in Thine own good time, and may this light affliction, which is but for a moment, work for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory. We ask all, for Jesus Christ's sake. Amen.

Our Father, etc.

A Prayer when one in the Family is Seriously Ill.

[MORNING OR EVENING.]

O GOD, our Merciful Father, we would call upon Thee in this our day of trouble and anxiety. We thank Thee that we may cast all our care on Thee, knowing that Thou carest for us. We thank Thee that we are permitted in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving to make known our requests unto Thee. Most Gracious and Pitiful Father, behold us in loving kindness for the sake of Thy dear Son. Our sins rise up to condemn us, but blot them out of Thy Book through the Saviour's blood. Let them not hinder our access to Thee, nor cause Thee to hide Thy face from us in this our time of need.

O Heavenly Father, we know that Thou workest all things after the counsel of Thine own will, and Thy will is love to all who trust in Thee. We commit into Thy hand our present distress. Restore again Thy servant to health and strength if it seem good to Thee. Bless the means used for *his* recovery. Give *him* quiet rest, and may nothing occur to hinder his restoration. But teach us, O Lord, to own Thy wisdom, and to leave all in Thy hand. Thou knowest the end from the beginning, and Thou orderest all our footsteps. Lead us onward to Thy rest, whether our path be smooth or rough. Give grace to *him* who is now weak and suffering, that *he* may put his whole trust in Thy mercy. Wash *him* and sanctify *him* with Thy Holy Spirit, and grant that living or dying *he* may be Thine alone for ever.

We pray Thee, O loving Saviour, keep

under Thy special protection this household and all in any way connected with us. By night and by day be Thou near to comfort, to succour and to direct us. Make Thy promises very sure to our hearts, and give us grace to rely continually on Thy faithfulness and love. When heart and flesh fail, be Thou the strength of our hearts and our portion for ever. Teach us to seek those things which are above, and may we live as strangers and sojourners on earth. May we perfectly know Thee as the Way, the Truth, and the Life, and bring us at last to the land of everlasting rest, where there shall be no more sorrow nor sighing. O blessed Saviour, plead Thou our cause and abundantly fulfil our petitions, for Thy name's sake. Amen.

Our Father, etc.

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